

THE TIMES

Tomorrow

Breakfast television may not be taking audiences by storm but it will have a profound effect on the coming election campaign.

David Butler reports on the problems of politics round the clock. Gavin Stamp speculates on the outcome of a new competition that could decide the future of one of London's best known landmarks.

Guard on £2m armed raid charge

A guard working for Security Express was charged yesterday with the attempted armed robbery of £2,241,965 from his employers at Christopher Street, Islington, North London, on March 9.

Solidarity calls May 1 protest

The underground Solidarity leaders called for mass May Day protest against Polish government policies, Mr Lech Walesa, whose wife was interrogated yesterday, said he had not signed the appeal but did not necessarily distance himself from it.

Adelman in

The US Senate confirmed the controversial appointment of Mr Kenneth Adelman as director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, scuttling aside doubts about his qualifications.

Judge dies

Judge Christmas Humphreys, Zen Buddhist, poet, herbalist and Shakespearean scholar, has died at his home in London. He was 82 and still the active leader of the Buddhist society he founded.

Ripper in court

Peter Sutcliffe, the Yorkshire Ripper, gave evidence in court against a fellow prisoner accused of slashing him in the face with a glass jar.

MPs' pay-offs

Most displaced or rejected MPs will be invited to redundancy payments, normally restricted to those who unsuccessfully contest election, because boundary changes mean that more than 10 constituencies will officially cease to exist at the next general election.

Miners' claim

The National Union of Mineworkers is demanding a four-day week and retirement at 55 for its members, in return for following the introduction of new technology.

Hitchens dies

Gerry Hitchens, who played football for England, Aston Villa and Italian clubs, died playing for a local team at Hope, near Wrexham. He was 48.

Wales: A three-page Special Report on efforts to attract new industries and holiday visitors to the Principality. Pages 13, 15

Leader page 11 Letters: On CABs, from Mr Peter Jay, and Mrs M P Kerry; Labour and pensioners, from Mr Brynmor John, MP, and Mr Peter Shore, MP; health resources, from Professor J A Davis and others; Interest rates; Leading articles: Interest rates; Armed Forces youth scheme; Features, pages 8, 10; The vet's dilemma; President Carter reassessed; Bernard Levin campaigns for the cockney sparrow; Fighting off Cogan and Swid; Friday page: The woman behind Jan Paisley; the dangers of sleeping pills; Obituary, page 12; His Honour Christmas Humphreys, QC

Table with 3 columns: Home News, Overseas, Appis, Arts, Business, Court, Crossword, Diary, Law Report. Includes sub-sections like Motoring, Parliament, Property, Sale Rooms, Science, Sport, TV & Radio, Universities, and Wills.

Whitelaw yields on police access to medical records

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Government climbed down yesterday over its plans to allow police access to confidential medical and other personal records, after a determined campaign by doctors and churchmen.

Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, told the Commons that he had taken seriously and sympathetically their anxieties that the provisions of Clause 10 of the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill, would adversely affect their confidential relationships with those who sought their help.

He had decided to bring forward amendments so that confidential personal records relating to the work of the medical and other caring professions, including priests and social workers, should be exempt from the clause.

Mr Whitelaw also indicated that he would be responding to journalists that the Bill will force them to disclose sources of confidential information.

Mr Patrick Mayhew, Minister of State at the Home Office, will meet representatives of the profession, including the National Union of Journalists, the Guild of British Newspaper Editors, the Newspaper Society and the Press Council, on Monday to discuss changes.

Under the Bill as drafted, police investigating a "serious arrestable offence" could have sought an order from a circuit judge allowing them to search the premises of doctors, psychiatrists, social workers, priests, and others for evidence.

Mr Whitelaw, in a written reply to Sir Edward Gardner, chairman of the Conservative

backbench home affairs committee, made clear that articles held on a confidential basis, other than personal records, would remain within the scope of the clause, although further safeguards are to be proposed over their production. Officials later said that such articles might include bloodstained clothes or hulleis.

Officials explained later that Mr Whitelaw had been much influenced by the criticism of doctors who had explained that although they were not concerned about records being taken, they feared their patients would believe their records were at risk.

The Government's climb-down over the Bill was not only a reaction to the strength of opposition to the proposals, which surprised ministers, but also a recognition that the Bill was highly unlikely to get through the House of Lords in its present form.

The changes were welcomed by the Opposition last night. Mr Roy Hattersley, Shadow Home Secretary, said the Government's decision was obviously right and "vindicated the campaign supported by the professional organizations most affected."

"It now seems extraordinary that the Government should have made such repressive proposals and that those of us who originally objected to them should have been accused of helping crime and assisting the criminals."

Doctors, church leaders and lawyers who united in their opposition to the Bill's provisions on police searches,

welcomed the concession yesterday (Frances Gith writes).

The British Medical Association said the controversial clause had "represented a most serious threat to the diagnosis and treatment of patients". It was "grateful to the Home Secretary for having recognized this danger by removing medical records from the Bill."

The association said it would still seek the extension of the Government's undertakings to cover issues and tissue fluids obtained in the course of diagnosis and treatment of patients. Doctors would continue to cooperate with the police in the investigation of very grave crimes and it was significant, the association added, there were no cited examples of public security being endangered through doctors not cooperating in such cases.

The Rev James Thompson, Bishop of Stepney, who with the Bishop of Kensington led a protest by more than fifty Church of England bishops, also welcomed the change. "But it is important to remember we have been concerned about the Bill as a whole which we want to try to get right for the community. Just because this issue has been tackled, that is not the end of the story."

The Law Society, which already had exemption under the Bill for legal documents claiming "legal professional privilege" but not for other records held by solicitors in confidence, gave a cautious welcome.

Tory MPs pin hopes on June election

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

The first parliamentary week since the Easter recess reached its climax yesterday with MPs of all parties preoccupied, above all else, with the question of when the Parliament will end.

Conservatives, who know no more than their political opponents what may be in the mind of the Prime Minister, hope that some clue may emerge from the private meeting today at which Mrs Margaret Thatcher will rally those Conservative candidates who are not yet MPs.

Among backbench Conservatives the ardour for a June election remains undimmed by the latest dip in the opinion polls, with Gallup in yesterday's Daily Telegraph reporting a halving of the Government's lead over Labour in the course of a month, and the Alliance parties falling back into third place.

A clear majority of Conservative MPs appear convinced that

who would prefer an October election.

Mr Harold Wilson's fate in June, 1970, the last time there was a summer election, was cited as evidence of how opinion polls could flatter and deceive even when voters were less changeable than today's. After long months of training the Conservatives in the polls, Labour then found itself given a seven point lead by Gallup in May and again in June. But by polling day they were beaten, securing 3% per cent less of the popular vote than Mr Heath's Conservatives.

Labour opinion is also divided, with most backbenchers unused to the party's mood at peace and still nervous of a June election. Mr Michael Foot would prefer an October date, believing that his front bench team will campaign effectively in the summer to sell their policies.

However, some of his senior colleagues have suddenly grown more confident. Results of early canvassing for the district elections next month, reported to Labour's south London headquarters, are said to show a marked increase in support.

Labour workers believe that the Falklands factor, which gave the Government marked support a year ago, has now faded and that the publication last month of Labour's campaign document has reawakened interest in their plans.

In the Commons yesterday, Mrs Thatcher, election or not, was willing enough to rubbish the Labour programme for economic recovery. Asked by an obliging Conservative to estimate the cost of Labour's plans she suggested a figure of between £30,000 million and £40,000 million a year. "The whole thing will be totally disastrous but they will never get the chance to implement it," she added.

Training in Forces offered to jobless

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Unemployed school-leavers were yesterday offered the chance of joining the Armed Forces for a year's engagement devoted to training and work experience for which they will receive a £25 weekly allowance under the Government's training scheme.

The Government is making 5,200 places available in the services for young volunteers, 3,700 in the Army, 1,000 in the RAF and 500 in the Royal Navy. The great majority will be for boys. The Army is unable to offer any places for girls, the Navy is offering up to 50 places for girls aged 17, and the RAF a small number.

Announcing details of the scheme in the Commons, Mr Michael Heseltine, the Secretary of State for Defence, defended it against fierce Labour criticism and denied that it was to be seen as the forerunner of an attempt to introduce conscription.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher had earlier predicted a great demand for the limited places available. Many young people would wish to play a part in defending their country, she said.

The volunteers, who will be able to apply by going to their local recruitment offices, will receive the same basic training as regular servicemen and women and some will go on to learn skills and trades. They will have to satisfy existing Armed Forces' entry standards and be able to leave at any time on 14 days' notice. Regulars normally serve at least a three year engagement.

Ten pounds a week will be deducted from their £25 allowance. Continued on back page, col 3



Walking the course: Master Peter Phillips taking his father in hand after Captain Phillips had competed in the dressage at the Badminton Horse Trials yesterday.

Building societies welcome base rate cut to 10%

By Frances Williams and Baron Phillips

The big four clearing banks yesterday took the hint from the Bank of England and cut their base lending rates by half a percentage point to 10 per cent. But a further cut in rates now looks some way off.

The move, which brings base lending rates back to their level at the beginning of the year, has given a welcome reprieve to Britain's five million home owners threatened by higher mortgage interest rates.

National Westminster led the way after the Bank of England cut its key money market dealing rates for the second day running. This was an unmistakable signal that it was willing to see a drop in base rates after more than a week of resistance. The previous half point cut came on Budget day a month ago.

The authorities have been anxious to temper hopes of rapid cuts in interest rates, because they fear this could put sterling under pressure and make monetary control more difficult.

The money supply is now growing at the top of its target range and may overshoot this month because of the Govern-

ment's spending spree at the end of the financial year, revealed in official figures on Wednesday.

The authorities will want to see the money supply clearly under control or a significant strengthening of sterling, perhaps following a cut in American interest rates, before sanctioning a further reduction in lending costs. This is likely to be some weeks away.

Sir Terence Beckett, director general of the Confederation of British Industry, welcomed yesterday's reduction which he said would benefit industry by £135m a year.

But real rates were still high. "We want further cuts to boost the recovery that is just beginning to happen", he said.

There was little reaction in the foreign exchange markets where the cut has been generally expected. The pound rose 0.4 cents to \$1.5045. Its trade-weighted index slipped 0.4 to 82.4, reflecting losses against European currencies which were more than made up in late trading.

Overdraft rates will fall by half a percentage point from today. Money growth, page 17

The building societies have been saying for some weeks that unless the banks lowered their interest rates, the cost of mortgages would have to rise.

The extent of the danger was known yesterday when the Building Societies Association said that net receipts in March were only £379m, well below the £700m which is necessary to maintain the lending level.

A total of £1,912m was lent to home-buyers during February and a further £1,905m was promised to mortgage applicants. At the end of last month the building society movement was committed to lend £4,203m.

Mr Richard Weir, the association's secretary general, said last night "The reduction eases the upward pressure on building society interest rates but nevertheless base rates are still a full percentage point above the levels established when the mortgage rate was reduced to 10 per cent in November."

But he said that further reductions in base rates would be necessary for the movement to stay competitive for attracting investment. Money growth, page 17

Maestro strikers vote to stay out

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

More than 5,000 workers at BL's Cowley plant in Oxfordshire voted overwhelmingly to stay on strike yesterday amid warnings from management that prolonged action would jeopardize investment. Last night the action was made official.

The dispute so far has cost £60m, stopped production of the newly-launched Maestro car for a fortnight and has constituted the most serious industrial relations problem at the company for many years. Around 4,000 other BL men have been made idle.

The stoppage is ostensibly over BL's decision to withdraw "washing up time" during shifts, but the dispute is merely one symptom of breakdown in the relationship between the company and its Cowley employees and a sign of increasingly militant workers.

Workers at the plant angry at what they regard as the autocratic attitude adopted by a management attempting to raise productivity. No further meetings are planned at the plant until next Friday, but there will now be closer involvement of national officers of the Transport and General Workers' Union.

The Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service is likely to intervene in an attempt to resolve the dispute.

Shop stewards at the works had recommended rejection of a revised peace formula from the company which would have phased out cleaning up time over a longer period.

Management also said that, with the cooperation of the workforce, it expected higher bonus earnings would be possible from May 16.

But the union says there can be no return to work until BL gives up its attempts to bring Cowley into line with other works and phase out cleaning up time.

Mr David Buckle, Oxford district secretary of the TGWU, told the strikers yesterday: "Some people believe this is an olive branch from the company. It is a stinging nettle and if you grasp it you will be stung."

Mr Harold Musgrove, Austin Rover chairman, has warned that a project to build a new executive car, codenamed XX, scheduled to be built by BL and Honda, was under threat because of the stoppage.

The Ford Motor Company yesterday announced a fresh attempt to persuade workers at its Halewood plant in Merseyside to accept radical changes in working practices. Unions have threatened to strike over the attempt to introduce what they call "Japanese-style" patterns of work (The Press Association reports).

Ford hopes to show all 9,700 employees a video film intended to allay their fears.



Mr Francis Pym: Advising caution

they would not necessarily win a June election, but that their party would have a distinctly better chance of success in June than later. Nonetheless the polls have also helped confirm the view of those ministers, including Mr Francis Pym, the Foreign Secretary, and Mr John Biffen, Leader of the Commons.

Attenborough flies into storm of protest

By Christopher Warman, Arts Correspondent

Sir Richard Attenborough arrived back in London from his Oscar-winning triumph in Los Angeles at the centre of a storm over his decision to attend a whites-only premiere of his film Gandhi in South Africa.

He said he was determined to attend the premiere. In the Commons, Mrs Margaret Thatcher rejected a suggestion that she should ask Sir Richard not to go to South Africa. It was a matter for Sir Richard. "He must be free wholly to decide this on his own grounds."

The Anti-Apartheid Movement delivered a letter of protest signed by its chairman, Mr Robert Hughes MP, which Sir Richard read on his arrival home, and later the movement received a statement from the UN.

The message, signed by Mr E. S. Reddy, an assistant secretary general at the UN with special

responsibilities for apartheid matters, said: "A premiere limited to whites will be a slap in the face to the spirit of Gandhi and the principles of the UN. The question is not merely that the director of the film will attend the premiere but whether the film, which was made in cooperation with India and deals with the life of Gandhi, shall be made available for a premiere showing to a racially segregated audience."

Sir Richard said: "Obviously I thought about it hard and long. The first thing I had asked was that the film be shown to mixed audiences. I was told this was out of the question as there was no such thing in South Africa and the only way the film could be shown was to segregated audiences."

He has discussed the matter with a number of people involved with the situation in



Sir Richard with Oscars at Heathrow

South Africa and "arrived at my conclusion, which was not an easy one."

Clutching his two Oscars, Sir Richard emphasized that he had been granted a permit to attend the black premiere in

Soweto. "It is most certainly my intention to go."

Either he had to accept segregated audiences or not have the film shown in South Africa. "I believe that the content of the film - and it is not being censored - is vital in terms of both white and black seeing the film."

"If the price for that was segregated audiences, that was the price I was prepared to accept providing I was absolutely assured that wherever it was shown to white audiences it would be shown to black as well."

Sir Richard, who arrived back with his wife Lady Sheila, said he believed the film could help the situation in South Africa. "I do not claim Gandhi is a great political film. It is cinema, but it does have the chance to touch people and it deals with human dignity and non-violence and that is why I

Continued on back page, col 1

Spitfire sold for £260,000

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, yesterday supported the Cunard decision to send the Cunard Countess to a Maltese shipyard for a post-Falklands refit.

She told MPs during Commons question time: "It does not seem to me unreasonable to say that we must have the ship back in the condition in which she was chartered by a certain date."

Efforts had been made, she said, to find a British yard which could carry out the refit in time for the ship to be back to the Caribbean, for cruise work, on July 9.

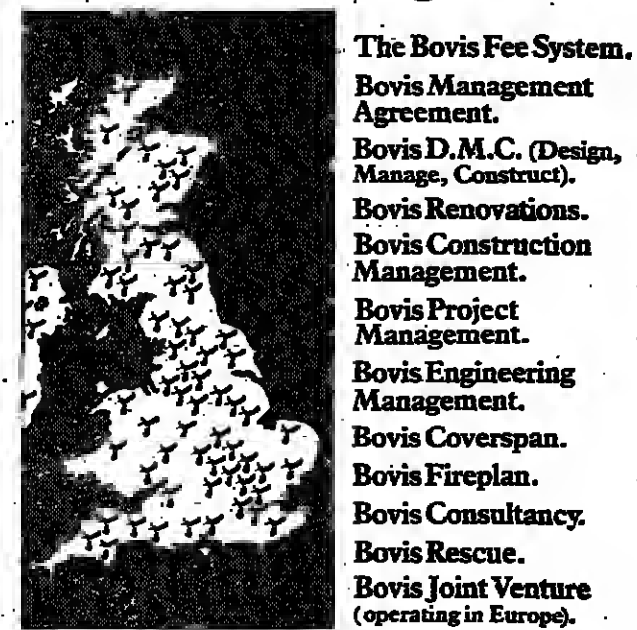
"It was vital", she said, "that the ship should be back on duty by July 9. It is disappointing that yards which did so well during the Falklands war were not able, in peacetime, to match that."

Mr Michael Foot, the Opposition leader, said that the Prime Minister's response would add to the country's sense of outrage. "If she is so unwiling or unable to do anything about it, will she at least cease the hypocrisy of exhorting people to buy British?" he asked.

He also asked whether the Government supported the "stiff" penalty clause which Cunard had imposed on the contract, and suggested that since the Ministry of Defence would bear 40 per cent of the cost of the refit, the Government could have threatened to withhold its contribution unless the work was done in British yards.

Mrs Thatcher insisted that Cunard had its own cruise deadlines to meet, and that non-British yards had been able to accept the penalty. Parliamentary Report, page 4

Bovis country.



The Bovis Fee System. Bovis Management Agreement. Bovis D.M.C. (Design, Manage, Construct). Bovis Renovations. Bovis Construction Management. Bovis Project Management. Bovis Engineering Management. Bovis Coverspan. Bovis Fireplant. Bovis Consultancy. Bovis Rescue. Bovis Joint Venture (operating in Europe). Bovis country extends from Truro to Inverness. And the heart of it is this: The Bovis Fee System of building. Today, there are no less than 12 applications of Bovis Fee, each designed for a different kind of building project - but providing the same benefits in each and every case: Quality of work. Saved time. Real value for money. How many countries offer a climate as good as that? How to get there: Full directions from Bernard Hodgson - 01-4223488 - Bovis Construction Ltd., Bovis House, Northolt Road, Harrow, Middx. HA2 0EE. Bovis Construction Limited. All you need to know about building.

Judge bans 'plagiarized' TV music

A 30-second television advertisement for children's shoes, showing children running along a sandy beach to music which was "extremely similar" to the *Chariots of Fire* theme, has been banned from all Independent Television channels from midnight today. Mr Justice Vinelott, in the High Court in London yesterday, said the music for the Clark's Shoes television advertisement was "blatant plagiarism".

The judge granted Warner Brothers Music, a subsidiary of the film makers, and Spheric, a Dutch company which owns the world rights in the *Chariots of Fire* theme, injunctions against Mr Graham De Wilde, the composer of the Clark's theme; KPM Music, an EMI subsidiary; and Collette Dickenson Pearce, the advertising agency who produced the commercial.

Later the Court of Appeal dismissed the defendants' appeal against the injunctions.

£240,000 in Blackpool fund

The fund set up after three police officers and a man were drowned at Blackpool in January, has now topped £240,000.

Payments have been made to police widows Mrs Bernadine Connolly and Mrs Hilary Morrison, and to the parents of Policewoman Angela Bradley. Police Constable Pat Abraham who also died into the sea in the unsuccessful attempt to save Mr Alistair Anthony, will also receive a payment. The remainder of the fund, is to be placed in trust for the six children who were orphaned.

Tree-felling farmer freed

Hugh Batchelor, a farmer, was released from Pentonville Prison in north London last night after the Court of Appeal ruled that he was eligible for remission on his 30-day sentence for good conduct in jail.

Mr Batchelor, of Fernham Court, Bearsted, Maidstone, was jailed by a High Court judge on March 30 for felling trees on the North Downs Pilgrims Way, a preservation area, in breach of court injunctions.

£7,260 damages over cycle crash

A collision in July, 1980 between two cyclists, one of them a village postman, culminated in an award of £7,260 against the Post Office in the High Court yesterday.

Mr William Baylis-Strover, aged 58, of Cranbrook, Kent, who fractured his arm and elbow, claimed that the injury affected his ability to cycle. Lawyers agreed it was the first bicycle collision case for 12 years.

NFU in claim over tip crows

Mid-Wales has a bigger carrion crow problem than any other part of Britain, Montgomery District Council's health committee was told yesterday. But the committee is accepting no liability for lambs killed near a council refuse tip.

The National Farmers Union has filed claims against the council for cattle losses because the farmers say there was no crow menace before the council opened the tip.

Move to ban mouse racing

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals may take legal action to end a wave of mouse racing meetings in public houses and clubs.

A recent meeting at the Three Tuns Hotel at Honiton in Devon, attended by 65 enthusiasts, is being investigated by the society, which says mouse races are cruel and illegal. The organizer of the Honiton event has denied any cruelty.

Rail death

One youth died and a second was critically injured yesterday after their motorcycle was in collision with a train on the Ty Haul railway crossing about 500 yards from Porthmadog station in Gwynedd, north Wales.

VC injured

Brigadier Sir John Smyth, aged 89, one of Britain's oldest holders of the Victoria Cross and a former Conservative MP, had broken two ribs in a fall at his home in Dolphin Square, Piccadilly, London.

Longleat theft

Thieves yesterday broke into a state dining room at Longleat House, Wiltshire, the home of Lord Bath, and stole between 16 and 20 antique snuff boxes worth at least £10,000.

Keren sets sail

The Keren, the vessel at the centre of a dispute when she was taken over by the Royal Navy, set off from the Tyne yesterday on her 8,000-mile voyage to the Falkland Islands.

New boundaries will bring £14,000 pay-offs for some MPs

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Most MPs displaced because of constituency boundary changes or not re-elected by their parties will be eligible for full redundancy payments, even if they do not stand at the next election.

It is understood that House of Commons authorities have ruled that 506 of the present 635 parliamentary constituencies will have ceased to exist at the next election within the terms of the redundancy grants resolution passed by the Commons in December 1971.

That resolution said that if an MP failed to be elected at a general election, or did not stand for election "in circumstances where the constituency for which he was a Member of this House has ceased to exist", he or she should be eligible for grant.

Payments are based on the parliamentary salary, presently £14,510. They range from 50 per cent of a year's salary, for those aged under 50 and with less than 10 years' service, to 100 per cent for those aged between 55 and 64, with more than 15 years' service.

Mr John Sever, the Labour MP for Birmingham, Ladywood, who has been rejected by his constituency party, and is therefore not entitled to go for selection for any of the revised constituencies in the Ladywood area, could receive a payment worth 50 per cent of salary because Ladywood ceases to exist. Mr Sever, 40 this month, has been an MP since 1977.

Similarly, Mr Raymond Mawby, the Conservative MP for Totnes, who failed to be selected for either Teignbridge or South Hams, new seats created from Totnes, would be eligible for the full severance payment because he is 61 and has been an MP since 1955.

It is understood that the only other group of MPs automatically excluded from receiving

Miners aim for 4-day week deal

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Miners' leaders yesterday decided to seek a new technology agreement with the National Coal Board, aimed at reducing the industry's working week to four days and the retirement age to 55.

The National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) executive is demanding an early answer from the National Coal Board on its claim for retirement 10 years before the state age for finishing work, longer holidays and a four day week, despite having signed a year-long agreement on wages and conditions that does not expire until October 31.

If the coal board management rejects the claim, a union ban will be imposed on the introduction of sophisticated coal-getting equipment. Initially, it could affect the Selby coal field, which is due to come "on stream" later this month.

Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the NUM, said yesterday: "All the evidence and logic and logic in the world will not convince the Government or the coal board to concede our legitimate demands. It is only when we concentrate their minds wonderfully that they concede things to those who work in this industry."

He said if the coal board wanted to continue its rapid construction of machinery, then it would have to negotiate terms with the union. "If the board refuses on this occasion, we shall simply refuse to accept new technology." But the coal board is likely to reject the move to reopen the industry's wages and conditions agreement in mid-term.

A ban on new technology would particularly affect the five Selby mines, upon which the coal board has pinned much hope for the future. Remote controlled machinery means that 10 million tonnes can be mined using only 4,000 miners, compared with 16,000 now required to produce the same amount of coal in the high-capacity Doncaster coal field nearby.

The final hurdle before development of the Belvoir coal field was crossed yesterday (see Environment Correspondent writes).

The planning and recreation subcommittee of Leicestershire County Council decided, with authority from the full council, to accept a planning application from the National Coal Board to develop the first and least controversial Belvoir mine at Asfordby, near Melton Mowbray.

The subcommittee attached to its approval a long list of conditions, which await acceptance by the board.

The National Coal Board is to close the Sorn mine in Ayrshire, with the eventual loss of 220 jobs (see Glasgow Correspondent writes).

Mr Albert Wheeler, NCB area director, said yesterday the pit, which is making a considerable loss, would close on April 29.

Cancer rate of survival is doubled

By a Staff Reporter

The number of people surviving cancer has more than doubled since the Second World War, because of advances in research, Mr Angus Ogilvy said in London last night.

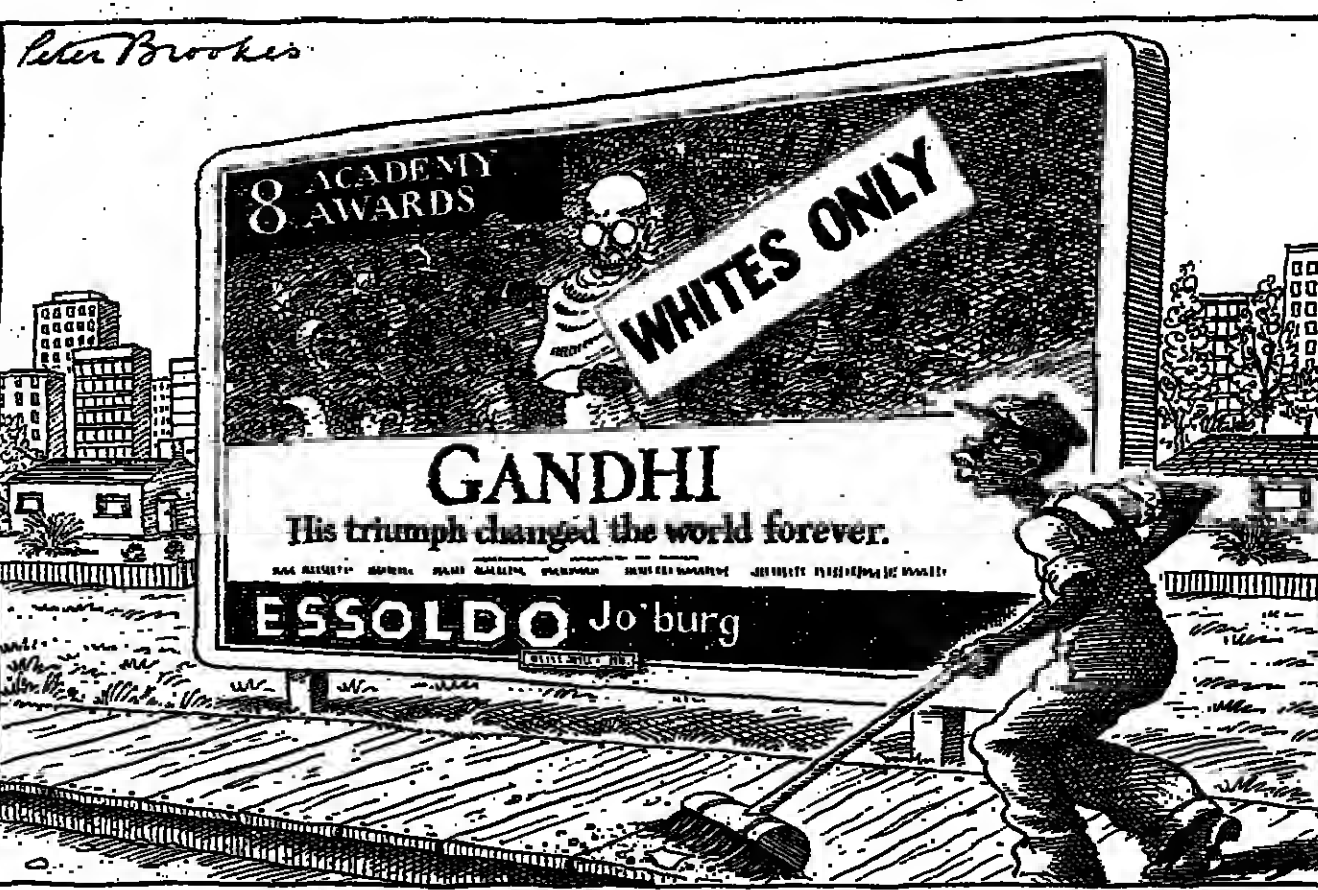
He was speaking at the opening of an exhibition depicting the history and the work of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, of which he is president. The exhibition is sponsored by the Yorkshire Building Society, and will be open to the public in the visitors' gallery over the next two months.

Mr Ogilvy said experts no longer expected a miracle cure for the war against cancer was likely to be long and costly.

Also present at last night's opening were Sir Anthony Jolliffe, Lord Mayor of London, and Mr Patrick Mifflard-Slade, deputy chairman of the Stock Exchange.

Conditions in Scottish prisons and attitudes to prisoners have been called appalling by a prison governor (see Glasgow Correspondent writes).

Mr Alex Spencer, the warden of Glenochil Detention Centre, near Alloa, claims in the *Journal of the Association of Scottish Prison Officers* "no one realizes the appalling conditions in which prisoners and staff have to live and work".



Sweeping the board

Jail chaos fear after dismissal

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

The prison system moved nearer to chaos yesterday as the Home Office decided to dismiss an official of the Prison Officers' Association (POA).

Mr Bryan Benwell, chairman of the Dartmoor branch for 12 years, said he was stunned by the decision and hoped the association would go ahead with its threat to order 22,000 members to take protest action.

The national executive decided to suspend action pending the outcome of a personal hearing from a Prison Department official requested by Mr Benwell as a stage in the appeal system against notice of dismissal.

The report of the hearing concluded that the arguments in Mr Benwell's favour did not justify withdrawal of the notice of intention to dismiss him. The Association's national executive will decide on its next move later this month, but almost any protest action would seriously inconvenience a system already in crisis and could bring it to the verge of chaos.

The POA says Mr Benwell is being victimized because of his union activities and his opposition to reduced manning levels introduced at Dartmoor.

The Prison Department said yesterday the Mr Benwell had earlier admitted failing to report to the office of Mr Leslie Wheeler, the regional director for the South West. The department said its action had nothing to do with Mr Benwell's POA activities.

But Mr Benwell said yesterday: "There is no way that I can say I disobeyed an order. I am stunned that this should be dealt with in this way."

Dublin Castle likely venue for forum

From Richard Ford, Dnhila

Leaders of the Irish Republic's three main political parties and Mr John Hume, leader of the Social Democratic and Labour Party met yesterday to discuss arrangements for setting up a forum to produce a blueprint for a united Ireland.

Although they had been expected to reveal details of the chairman, membership and venue for the forum they are to meet again next week after consultations with their colleagues.

A statement issued after the meeting said it had been constructive and considerable progress had been made. It is understood that Dublin Castle will be the venue for the forum, but there could be difficulties over finding a chairman acceptable to all parties.

The statement said that the first meeting of the forum, in which there will be no participation by northern Unionists or the Alliance Party, will be held before the end of May with its work being completed before Christmas.

Meanwhile, the coalition government in Dublin faced an embarrassing split yesterday when an angry public rebuke from the Labour leader and deputy Prime Minister to the Minister for Finance over remarks he made about subsidies and charges for health and education services.

The damaging controversy within the Fine Gael-Labour government is the second involving the two men since Dr Garret Fitzgerald was returned

Selection doubt for Fairbairn

From Richard Ford, Dnhila

The parliamentary career of Mr Nicholas Fairbairn, MP, the former Conservative Solicitor General of Scotland, will be decided next week when he stands for selection to the new seat of Perth and Kinross. A move to have him declared the sole nominal for the seat failed to secure a proposer and he has now been told that he must face an open contest for the nomination by the local Conservative Association.

It is understood that what is seen as Mr Fairbairn's "flamboyant" lifestyle has upset several prominent local Tories. He resigned as Solicitor General last year amid controversy over his handling of a Glasgow rape case. His recent divorce action has also been widely publicized.

Mr Fairbairn has represented the present seat of Kinross and Perthshire, West, the past 10 years. He faces strong opposition from Mr David Myles, a farmer and present Tory MP for Banff, and Mr David Amory, a nephew of Mr Heathcoat Amory, who was Chancellor of the Exchequer between 1958 and 1960. Mr Amory stood for the Tories in Brent, South, at the last general election. Mr Amory, when asked if he had heard of any bad feeling towards Mr Fairbairn, said: "No, but it is no concern of mine. I have never met the man." He added that he did not regard himself as a favourite, but was hopeful of winning.

Mr Fairbairn declined to discuss the selection but said he expects to win. Mr Ronald Kingsley-Brown, his present constituency association secretary, said he could comment on what the new association might decide.

Mr Francis Maude, a barrister and son of Sir Angus Maude, a former Paymaster-General in Mrs Thatcher's government, has been chosen as Tory parliamentary candidate for the new seat of North Warwickshire.

Mr Peter Kent, a railway worker at Crewe, has been selected as the Labour prospective parliamentary candidate for the new seat of South Derbyshire.

Mower test inconclusive

The confrontation between rival lawnmowers from Qualcast and Flymo ended inconclusively yesterday. A demonstration at Stoke Mandeville Hospital in Buckinghamshire, appeared to prove the Qualcast machine superior, although there were allegations that the Flymo was not properly operated.

However, the Independent Television Companies Association declined to attend the event, and will be organizing a separate private test to see whether Flymo is justified in its complaints that the present Qualcast television advertisement misrepresents the performance of its Flymo competitor.

In the meantime the advertisement continues to be shown, although the wording of the voice-over by Mr John Ashott has been slightly changed.

Policeman 'drove car at wife'

A former beauty queen told a jury yesterday that her "violent and jealous" husband drove a powerful car straight at her and her companion.

Miss Ann Melling, an air hostess, was giving evidence on the second day of the trial at Manchester Crown Court in which her husband, Rodney Kettle, a policeman, denies attempting to cause her grievous bodily harm.

The prosecution has alleged that Mr Kettle, aged 30, of St John's Avenue, Warrington in Cheshire, was inflamed by jealousy and passion, and deliberately drove at his wife and a friend, Mr Alan Dawson, after finding them in a public house.

The former "Miss Coal Queen" was saved when Mr Dawson shielded her, but he sustained a broken leg.

Miss Melling, who has changed her name by deed poll, said that her husband threatened to kill her. "He told me: 'I'll kill you, you bitch', and I heard the car rev up hard. I turned round and it was coming straight at us."

Miss Melling described her husband as violent and jealous.

She said that she once upped a carton of flea powder over her head, had ripped her clothing and tore pages from her diary saying that they contained the telephone numbers of other men.

Miss Melling said that on the night of the alleged incident she had gone for a drink with Mr Dawson when her husband arrived. He pleaded with her to go back to him and when she refused he hit her about the head and kicked her on the chest.

Outside the public house he got into his car and drove it at her and Mr Dawson. "He stood around me protecting me and the car collided with Alan's legs", she said.

The case continues today.



Miss Ann Melling and her husband, Mr Rodney Kettle.

Squirrels put trees in danger

By John Young, Agricultural Correspondent

Thousands of young trees are at risk because of an expected renewed rise in the grey squirrel population.

The last such sudden increase was in the early 1970s and led to legislation permitting the use of the poison Warfarin. Fears were then expressed for the survival of oak, beech and sycamore trees; there was talk of experimentation with sterility pills, and there were even suggestions that the animals should be killed and eaten.

A mild winter and a copious autumn harvest of beech nuts, chestnuts, and acorns are blamed for the latest predicted population explosion.

The Forestry Commission, which in most years has played down the grey squirrel problem so as to concentrate people's minds when it became serious, has warned woodland owners to be on the alert this spring and summer and to prepare traps and poisonous baits.

Squirrels kill trees by stripping off the bark, mainly between May and July. Scientific observations suggest that stripping is more commonly a manifestation of aggression rather than hunger. Young hardwoods between 10 and 40 years old are most at risk, but conifers are also vulnerable, the commission says.

Rebels drift back, but steel plants close

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

Rebel steelworkers in South Yorkshire started to report for work yesterday after being urged by their union to stop unofficial action.

But the British Steel Corporation said it had been forced to close the melting shop and continuous casting plant at Templeborough. A full return to work in those departments had to be assured before they could reopen. Furnaces in other parts of the works have been lit and production will resume soon.

The corporation said Stocksbridge and Tinsley Park works were back in full production and the situation at Rotherham was "significantly improved". Craftsmen there, however, are still refusing to work and their union officials are being asked to get their members back to work.

It was the refusal of 900 craftsmen to accept a return-to-work call from the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation and subsequent picketing which caused the shutdowns.

The dispute stemmed from protest over corporation attempts to reduce the workforce.

The corporation announced yesterday that it is to close the slabbing mill at Ravenscrag, Scotland, with the loss of 128 jobs by June. (The Press Association reports).

Plans for a union merger between journalists and print workers as part of a strategy to create a single media were finally abandoned yesterday after the National Union of Journalists, (NUJ) conference refused to have over amalgamation negotiations to its executive. (David Felton writes from Dundee).

That decision led the National Graphical Association, (NGA), with whom the NUJ has been negotiating for almost a year, to announce that the merger plans had ended.

Cost conflict in Labour pensions

By Our Political Correspondent

Two of Mr Michael Foot's Shadow Cabinet colleagues have revealed that their leader's 12-point plan for pensions, published on March 1, is a "phased programme" which would be introduced over the lifetime of a Parliament.

In a letter to *The Times*, Mr Peter Shore, Shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Mr Brynmor John, Opposition spokesman on social security, explain conflicting costings for the programme by saying that there is a difference between the first full-year cost of the programme and the full-year cost which would apply when the package had been fully implemented.

The document, *Labour's Plan, The New Hope for Britain*, made no reference to pensions in its *Emergency Programme of Action*, but it was said at the time that that had been an oversight.

Mr Foot had told a delegation from the National Pensioners' Convention on March 1 that a Labour government would give the nine million pensioners an increase of £1.45 a week for single pensioners and £2.25 for married pensioners, to make good the Conservatives' ending of the earnings link, "at the first opportunity". That would cost £500m in a full year.

But Mr Shore said on March 10 that he had allocated £2,000m for increases in benefits and pensions, including a £2 a week rise in child benefit, which would cost £1,100m, and the extension of long-term supplementary benefit rates to the one million who had been out of work for more than a year. At an extra £10.60 for a couple that would cost £400m, leaving only £500m for pensioners.

Mr Shore also said that he would "make progress" on the restoration of the link between the pension and earnings.

Letters, page 11

Science report

Scylla and Charybdis lose all credibility

By the Staff of Nature

In Greek mythology Scylla and Charybdis are two immense monsters dwelling in the narrow Strait of Messina separating Sicily from Italy. Their existence was invoked by Homer in *The Odyssey* to explain the strong currents and vortices in the area. Being immortal they should of course still be there today. Now an oceanographic satellite has observed their effects, but a less dramatic explanation for the local currents has been proposed.

The Seasat satellite uses radar to give high resolution images of the Earth which are particularly useful for detecting subtle large-scale features on the surface of the seas and oceans.

In a flight over the south-west Italian coast, the satellite transmitted spectacular images of *tagli* (special types of tidal cores resembling those seen in estuaries) and single waves spreading out from the mouth of the Strait of Messina 30km into the Tyrrhenian Sea, like ripples on a pond.

This was the first time that such "internal waves" had been observed coming from the strait, although they have been recorded from near the Strait of Gibraltar.

From the satellite images and from measurements taken on an Italian research ship in the area, Dr Werner Alpers of the University of Hamburg and Dr Ettore Salsusti of the University of Rome have now been able to come up with a satisfactory explanation of the strong currents in the strait, without recourse to monsters.

The strait is shallow compared to the Tyrrhenian Sea to the north and the Ionian Sea to the south, and forms a bottleneck between the two. Because the water in the Ionian Sea is slightly saltier and therefore heavier than the water to the north, a steady bottom current is set up moving northwards through the strait, together with a surface current moving in the opposite direction.

There is also a tidal current in the Mediterranean which is out of phase at opposite ends of the strait. When this tide reverses, the heavier water from the Ionian Sea rushes head-on against the slowly receding lighter water from the Tyrrhenian Sea, causing the *tagli* to form and propagate internal waves.

These features were detected by the satellite's radar, as was Charybdis in the form of a vortex at the northern end of the strait near the Sicilian town of Ganzirri, where the water passes the end of a narrow passage.

All told, the explanation put forward by Dr Alpers and Dr Salsusti is more credible than that of Homer or of Aristotle, who suggested that Scylla and Charybdis were produced by hollows in the seafloor and an interaction of two wind-generated currents.

Source: *Journal of Geophysical Research*, Vol 88, p 6100, 1983. © Nature-Times News Service, 1983

Chess lead narrows

By Harry Golombek, Chess Correspondent

After seven rounds in the Charlton Jubilee International Chess Tournament, J Richardson was in the lead with five points and one adjourned game, followed by Hebdien 5, Plaskett 4½ and I adjourned. Arkell, Condie Durven, Flesch, Harroch Laird, Prie, and Stebbings were all on 4½.

Richardson may lose his narrow lead since he looks like losing his twice adjourned game from round seven against Plaskett. Plaskett increased his advantage by winning a pawn in the Osgen and pawn ending.

Adjourned games, result round six: Melchior 0, Arkell 1. Round seven: Manock ½, Flesch ½, Teresa Needham 0, McNab 1.

Overseas selling prices
Australia \$1.80, Canada \$1.80, Denmark 1.80, France 1.80, Germany 1.80, Hong Kong 1.80, India 1.80, Italy 1.80, Japan 1.80, New Zealand 1.80, Norway 1.80, Portugal 1.80, Singapore 1.80, South Africa 1.80, Sweden 1.80, Switzerland 1.80, Taiwan 1.80, Thailand 1.80, USA 1.80, USSR 1.80, West Germany 1.80.

Handwritten Arabic text at the bottom of the page.

Yorkshire Ripper says fellow-prisoner attacked him with glass

Peter Sutcliffe, the Yorkshire Ripper, told a court yesterday that another prisoner at Parkhurst Prison hit him in the face with a glass jar.

Sutcliffe was giving evidence at the hearing of a charge against James Costello, aged 35, who is alleged to have attacked him. Reporting restrictions were lifted.

Sutcliffe, aged 37, who gave evidence handcuffed to a prison officer in the witness box at Newport Magistrates Court on the Isle of Wight, said: "Suddenly I was subject to a particularly nasty, totally unexpected and unprovoked attack."

Smartly dressed in a grey suit and open-necked blue shirt, Sutcliffe, who was bearded, wore a golden cross on a chain around his neck.

Costello sat in the dock flanked by two prison officers. He is accused of wounding Sutcliffe in Parkhurst on January 10 with intent to do him grievous bodily harm.

Mr Graham Grant-Whyte, for the Director of Public Prosecutions, told the court Sutcliffe suffered a severe injury in the attack, and needed surgery.

He had a deep laceration five inches long across his face, a two and a half inch deep laceration at the outer upper part of his left eye and a laceration in his upper left eyelid. He lost some blood and was in a state of mild shock. He underwent an operation to repair superficial muscle damage.

Sutcliffe told the magistrates he was a prisoner in the hospital wing at Parkhurst, where he went in January this year. Shortly before 6 pm on January 10, staff unlocked his cell so he could get some water.

He filled a bowl and, as he turned the tap off, was aware of the presence of another person.

"I did not pay particular attention to who it was. I took about two strides and suddenly I was subject to a particularly nasty, totally unexpected and unprovoked attack. The first thing I was aware of was a glinting glass container just before it smashed into my face."

Pointing to the left side of his face, Sutcliffe added: "It hit me there."

He identified Costello, sitting in the dock, as the person who attacked him. He said he did not know Costello.



Sutcliffe arriving at court yesterday.

Sutcliffe, who arrived amid tight security two and a half hours before the hearing was due to start, was driven away in a prison van almost immediately after giving evidence. A crowd of about a hundred waited outside the court and there was some booing.

Costello, whose address was given on the court records as c/o Broadmoor Hospital, was committed for trial at Newport Crown Court. The magistrates overruled a defence submission that the prosecution case was not sufficient to require the case to go for trial.

Cross-examined by Mr Peter Ader, for the defence, Sutcliffe said he had been hearing voices, giving him advice when he was depressed.

He denied having difficulties in his relationships with other prisoners. "Aren't you a rather unpopular person?" Mr Ader asked. "Yes, but it does not affect me because it is an ignorant opinion they hold. Anyway, they just do not understand," Sutcliffe said. Asked if he was aware that his story would be worth money if he told it to the press, Sutcliffe replied: "That is the trouble with society today. People are motivated by greed and there are no moral values at all."

Earlier Mr Grant-Whyte, describing the alleged attack, said two blows had been struck and hospital officers had witnessed part of the incident. Asked what had happened, Mr Costello said Sutcliffe had attacked him.



The go-anywhere phone

By Bill Johnston, Electronics Correspondent

Gone are the days of having to be in carport of the telephone when waiting for a call or being frustrated by hearing it ring just before stepping into the bath. Britain now has its first officially approved cordless phone, allowing the user to make and receive calls 600ft from the telephone's base.

The unit has a base (shown left), which is connected to the normal telephone socket and mains electricity, and a cordless handset powered by a small battery, linked with the base by radio frequency. When replaced on the base the handset battery is recharged automatically from the mains supply.

The first design was launched yesterday by Fidelity which will market its own brand and has supplied a design to British Telecom, also launched yesterday. Among the first to try it were Suzanne Danielle, the actress, and a policeman on duty in London's Embankment gardens (above).

Four other British suppliers have been given approval to sell cordless telephones. They are Plessey, which is expected to manufacture two models, Conversation Pieces, Answer-call and Geomarc. The sets, which cost about £170, are expected to threaten the telephone extension market. Top photograph: John Manning

Hammer used to wreck home

Rodney Towler, aged 49, was committed to prison for a month at Southend County Court yesterday for making his estranged wife homeless, which Judge Gordon Rice ruled was in breach of an earlier order not to molest her.

The judge had also previously ordered Towler, an unemployed heating engineer with three children, to leave the matrimonial home in Hadleigh Park Avenue, Thundersley, Essex, by April 2.

In an affidavit Mrs Margaret Towler said she returned home to find the roof partly ripped off, windows smashed and a water cylinder punctured, causing flooding. Ceilings were bulging or collapsed, there were holes in the walls and the lavatory and bathroom basin were smashed. The repairs totalled £4,500. The husband admitted causing the damage with a hammer.

Doctor for trial on drug charges

Pierre Jonescu, aged 82, a Romanian-born retired Harley Street doctor facing 20 charges of forging prescriptions for heroin substitute drugs, was remanded on bail by Marlborough Street magistrates yesterday for trial at the Central Criminal Court.

Since he first appeared in court on November 17 Dr Jonescu of Hallam Street, Marylebone, central London, has been remanded in custody in his absence each week while being treated for chronic bronchitis.

Council buys ponies at risk

Somerset County Council has paid £1,300 from the rates to help in saving the world's oldest breed of horse from extinction.

Three mares, a filly and a colt have been bought to protect the Exmoor breed, which has only 150 mares surviving in its natural environment and has been declared an endangered species. The council bought six mares and a stallion two years ago, and five mares are now in foal.

Manx death penalty vote

A report recommending the retention of the death penalty for murder in the Isle of Man will go before Manx MPs in Tynwald on Tuesday and is almost certain to be accepted.

But death sentences passed by Manx courts will continue to be commuted to life imprisonment by the Home Secretary "for the foreseeable future".

U-boat visit

Two West German submarines and their mother ship arrive on a three-day visit to Orkney today. They form part of the Third Federal German Submarine Squadron and will have a total complement of 126.

Footballer dies

Gerald Hitchins, aged 48, a former England international and Aston Villa player, collapsed and died during a village football match in Hppe, North Wales, on Wednesday evening. He lived in Holywell, Clwyd.

£500m dock leisure centre plan

By Baron Phillips Property Correspondent

A multi-million pound leisure and convention centre is being planned for a 1,200-acre docks site in Bristol which if allowed will be the largest development of its kind in Britain.

Planning permission for the development, which is expected to cost at least £500m, is being sought by the international Heron Corporation headed by Mr Gerald Ronson. It is expected that an outline of the scheme will be considered by Woodspring District Council early next week.

The site is about three miles outside Bristol city centre between the Royal Portbury Dock and the Portishead Dock. The vacant land is owned by Bristol City Corporation and the Central Electricity Generating Board.

The scheme would provide thousands of jobs in the area. At the heart of the development is a large convention centre similar to ones in the United States where convention business is thought to be the largest single industry in the country. Apart from the conference and convention facilities, there will be extensive hotel accommodation, a leisure park, ancillary offices and shops, housing and some light industrial development.

A Heron spokesman said last night that the location was right for such a scheme. The company was confident of being granted outline planning consent and it would then spend several million pounds on a research and feasibility study. In the 1960s Heron developed a large housing and shopping centre at Yate, a Bristol suburb, but since then it has grown into one of the largest private multinational companies in Britain. Its interests cover property development and investment, petrol stations, car sales, house building, electronics and insurance, and are spread throughout Europe and North America.

It is thought the scheme would provide the largest and most extensive convention and leisure facilities in Europe. Part of Carnaby Street, once the heart of "swinging" London in the 1960s, has been sold for £10.5m to a property company. The sale was of about 180,000 sq ft of shops and offices on the west side of the street. Peachey Properties, the new owners, now control about three quarters of the street. Property column Page 24

New moves to curb animal experiments

By John Young

Proposals for legislation to control experiments on animals were published yesterday by a joint working party of the British Veterinary Association, the Committee for the Reform of Animal Experimentation and the Fund for the Replacement of Animals in Medical Experiments.

Their report suggests that experiments should be confined to the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of diseases in humans, animals or plants, including the safety testing of medicines and the quality control of foods; the detection of physiological conditions; prolongation of life; protection of the natural environment; animal breeding; the advancement of biological knowledge; and certain limited educational and training purposes.

The premises where experiments are carried out and those conducting them should be licensed by the Home Office, it says. Applications for licences should be countersigned by two sponsors holding senior appointments in biological sciences. With the exception of farm animals, those used in experiments should be bred for the purpose, the report suggests. The use of cats or dogs taken from the streets should not be permitted.

Mice, rats, guinea pigs, rabbits, dogs, cats and hamsters should be acquired only from

registered establishments. Other animals, particularly primates, should be added to that list as soon as there is a reasonable prospect of a sufficient supply.

"In reaching a decision to use wild animals for experimental purposes, the welfare of the animals, the survival of the species and the quality of the experimental material should be taken into account," it says. "Financial grounds alone should not be a sufficient reason for an exception to be made."

The report notes that the difficulty of defining pain, suffering or distress is not been resolved satisfactorily. But it is possible to recognize various states of suffering, both in intensity and duration.

For example, a brief painful stimulus, such as the insertion of a needle through the skin, is probably inconsequential. On the other hand, the stress imposed in the restraint and immobilization of the animal may be severe.

Mr Neal King, president of the British Veterinary Association, said yesterday that the report represented an important meeting of minds between responsible welfare organizations and was a significant advance in establishing a cornerstone for legislation. Dr Tom Gibson, the association's vice-president, said it was not at this stage possible to exclude cosmetics from being tested on animals. *Vets' dilemma, page 10*

Driver 'woke' after car crash

Drugs on trial

By Francis Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

A company sales executive who went to bed after taking sleeping tablets and pain killers, woke up in a police station and heard how he had driven through red traffic lights and then crashed his car, West London magistrates at Acton were told yesterday.

Raymond Johnston, aged 39, of Haygarth Mews, Wimbledon, had no recollection of the crash after he had taken two Halcion sleeping tablets. He had also taken two dihydrocodeine tablets (DF-118), a strong pain killer which, coupled with a similar dose a few hours earlier, could have been responsible for his robot-like behaviour, the court was told.

Mr Johnston was cleared of driving while unfit due to either drink or drugs after a 28-hour hearing in which the expert witness for the defence was Dr Cornelius van der Kroef, a Dutch psychiatrist.

Dr van der Kroef, whose campaign against Halcion led to its ban in Holland, said Mr Johnston's "automatism" resembled that which he had seen in many of the 1,000 cases he had analysed. He thought it "highly probable" that the behaviour had been caused by Halcion.

But Professor Malcolm Lader, Professor at London University's Institute of Psychiatry, said that Halcion in the recommended dose in Britain, which is lower than it was in Holland, "has not been associated with a higher incidence of adverse reaction than any other member of its class".

He said the levels of the pain killer DF-118 in Mr Johnston's blood were "extremely high" and that there had been deaths reported at that level. The "automatism" behaviour could have been caused by that drug alone.

Mr Johnston said that on August 12 last year, he had gone to hospital for treatment for an eye injury, and then to work. By 11.30am he decided to return home to try to sleep.

He had taken two 30mg DF-118 tablets at 7.15am and, although the recommended dose was a maximum of two every six to eight hours, he took two more. He also took the two 0.25mg Halcion tablets.

After the accident, Mr Johnston was said to have been unsteady, uncoordinated and dazed, with slurred speech when questioned at Acton police station.

Dr Norman MacLeod, medical director of Upjohn Ltd, Halcion's manufacturers, said after the case that Mr Johnston had been lucky not to have killed himself. Evidence in the case reaffirmed Halcion as a widely used and perfectly safe drug.

GPs paid up to £250,000 in error

Sheffield City Council's health department has been asked for advice on how to recover the overpayment of National Health Service funds, due to an administrative error, to family doctors in the city. The overpayments, which may total about £250,000, have been made over a number of years by the Sheffield Family Practitioner Committee. Some doctors have been paid

twice for contraceptive services supplied to NHS patients in the city. Some practices are said to have been overpaid by up to £3,000 and there is a strong likelihood they will have to repay the money.

Mr Philip Nuttall, the committee's administrator, said that the amount to be recovered from doctors in the city would "depend on the departmental view on how we handle it".

General practitioners supply contraceptive services on an item-for-service basis. After making out a prescription, they send a claim form to the family practitioner committee detailing the type of service supplied and the committee reimburses the money. A Sheffield doctor claimed yesterday that it was possible that busy doctors in large practices could overlook the extra payments.

BBC attack on jamming by Russia

By Kenneth Gosling

Mr Douglas Muggersidge, the managing director of BBC External Broadcasting, yesterday launched a stinging attack on what he called "a politically motivated and carefully orchestrated campaign" against international broadcasting, led by the Soviet Union and the Eastern block.

Speaking to the Diplomatic and Commonwealth Writers' Association in London, he predicted the imminent breakdown of law and order on the airwaves unless there was "a new spirit of understanding". He said: "We are already witnessing a ganging-up of some nations to prevent the use of satellite technology in international broadcasting."

"The widespread use of jamming by the Soviet Union and other countries in many parts of the world is rapidly making a nonsense of all the international conventions for the orderly use of the airwaves."

Russia jammed the BBC "in order to try and prevent us on their own admission from being widely heard and believed in Russia". It was the BBC's credibility which was the ultimate affront to the men of the Kremlin.

Mr Muggersidge also reiterated his concern at last December's vote in the United Nations which had implied that nations should have the right to block satellite television broadcasts from abroad.

Wife 'used as kennel maid' gains divorce

A wife whose husband was said to have used her as a "kennel maid" for their dogs and apart from that ignored her was granted a divorce yesterday.

The behaviour of Mr William Ivens, aged 47, was more than his wife, Joy, aged 55, could be expected to tolerate any longer. Judge Patricia Coles ruled in the London Divorce Court.

The judge said that after 21 years of marriage the "only common denominator" left between Mr and Mrs Ivens was their interest in their eight Saluki dogs.

Mr Ivens, of Woodlands Lane, Windlesham, Surrey, a principal with a London firm of estate agents, had not communicated with his wife for years; had not had sexual relations with her for seven years and embarrassed her by ignoring her at social occasions, the judge said. He did not even tell her when he bought a racehorse.

"It is obvious Mr Ivens is running his own life completely and is simply using Mrs Ivens as a kennel maid for the dogs."

Assault risk in wards 'greater than on beat'

Mr James Sharp, a former policeman who works as a nurse, said yesterday that hospitals were such violent places he felt at greater risk of being assaulted there than when he was on the beat.

Mr Sharp, a night nursing officer at Whittington Hospital, Highgate, north London, said staff faced a growing number of attacks from patients, visitors and intruders.

He said staff were often afraid to leave the safety of wards at night. He called for more security staff to make hospitals safer. "The sad truth today is that a nurse's uniform is no longer protection against attack. It may well make her a target," he added.

Mr Sharp told reporters attending the Royal College of Nursing annual meeting in Bournemouth that violence was widespread.

A study at one hospital in London showed that assaults and violent threats against staff had increased to 47 in a five-month period last year compared with only 21 during the same period in 1981.

London cable TV 'may be uneconomic'

By Our Electronics Correspondent

Glasgow could prove to be an economically attractive location for cable television operators in spite of its concentration of lower income groups while London, once thought to be the most potentially lucrative area for cable, may prove uneconomic.

The findings are contained in *Cablecasting Britain: A Profitable*, a report published yesterday and prepared by National Economic Research Associates International, a firm of consulting economists. The results are based on a study of four sample cable franchise areas: London, Glasgow, Leicester and Nottingham. The London franchise consisted of Hammersmith, Fulham, Kensington and Chelsea and the franchise period in all the samples was assumed to be 12 years.

The report concludes: "Households with children are much more likely to subscribe to cable; in this respect London looks less attractive for cabling than the other franchise areas."

Mr Trevor Clay the college's general secretary, said the issue of violence would be discussed by the ruling council next week.

Police support for more aid to crime victims

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Strong police backing for a big expansion of aid to victims of crime is pledged by Sir Kenneth Newman, Metropolitan Police Commissioner, as part of his new social contracts between police and public.

The aid will be given by volunteers, with police and Government support, as part of the fast-growing National Association of Victims Support Schemes. The volunteers will assist help for victims who need it.

Sir Kenneth announces his plan in the annual report of the association, which tells how three volunteers spent four days cleaning and repairing an Asian grocer's shop after a petrol

bomb attack. In Islington, volunteers provided urgently needed aid for a blind man who was assaulted and mugged in the street. Manufacturers of his stolen pocket tape-recorder, used for notes and reminders, gave him another free when volunteers told them.

The volunteers also alerted the Metropolitan Society for the Blind to give him an immediate grant during his recovery from injury and help him claim £565 from the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board.

When youths set fire to the front door of the home of a Bromley woman aged 88, severely shocking her, volun-

teers arranged accommodation elsewhere until she recovered. Then, to keep her spirits up, arrangements were made for her to attend a day centre. The local beat policeman also kept special watch on her flat.

"There must be a movement away from the concept of victim support being a welfare service for a minority of victims," Sir Kenneth writes. Sir Kenneth's plan is part of a big growth nationally in aid to victims. Miss Helen Reeves, the association's national officer, notes in the report a 50 per cent increase in people offered help in 1982, to a new total of 41,375. By the end of the year, 2,912 people were working

voluntarily in local schemes. Between September 1979 and September 1982, the number of schemes increased from 34 to 129.

Six more schemes are planned in London, where 16 are already in action. Sir Kenneth's backing means other schemes are now likely.

He says: "It is vitally important to harness the community in responding to the needs of victims, as well as attempting to reduce the number of victims through crime prevention." The association claims in its report to have a more extensive voluntary service for victims of crime than any other country in the world.

The Royal Charter for the University of Buckingham is now officially sealed.

The University of Buckingham, formerly The University College at Buckingham, has now achieved full university status. It is Britain's only independent university and provides unique features in university education while retaining the traditional British emphasis on small-group teaching.

- * Two-year degree course (BA, BSc, BSc(Econ), LLB)
- * Four ten-week terms per calendar year
- * Programme of inter-disciplinary supporting courses, including modern languages, for all undergraduates
- * January start for courses, with an additional Law intake in July

Applications may be made immediately for the two-year Law degree beginning this July, or at any time for degrees beginning in January in the following subject areas:

ACCOUNTING, BUSINESS, and ECONOMICS,
HISTORY, POLITICS, and ENGLISH,
EUROPEAN STUDIES (3 years),
LIFE SCIENCES,
LAW (also a July entry),
POLITICS, ECONOMICS, and LAW.

Postgraduate courses are also offered and there is an expanding programme of research.

Applications are made direct to the Admissions Officer, not through UCCA.

Opened as The University College at Buckingham by the Rt. Hon. Mrs. Margaret Thatcher in 1976, Buckingham had as its first Principal Professor Max Beloff, (now Lord Beloff), who was succeeded in 1980 by Professor Alan Pearce, now Vice-Chancellor. The Chancellor of the University is Lord Hailsham.

For further information please write to:
The Admissions Officer, The University of Buckingham,
Buckingham MK18 1EG, or telephone Buckingham (0280) 814080

The University of Buckingham



PARLIAMENT April 14 1983

Yards unwilling to take risk over Cunard refit

SHIP REPAIRING British ship repair yards must be prepared to fulfil orders on time. Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said in reply to Labour criticism at question time in the Commons of the decision to send the Cunard Countess to Malta for a £2m refit.

Thatcher declines to end election speculation

PM'S QUESTIONS The only clue that Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, would give in the Commons about the date of the next general election was that it would be some time in the next 15 months.

Forces to train young volunteers

UNEMPLOYMENT The armed forces are to offer voluntary training places for the young unemployed. Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, announced in a statement in the Commons.

Prior sees snags in Irish forum

ULSTER Any forum, such as that suggested by Dr Garrett FitzGerald in Dublin, or any other initiative which in any way put at risk the view of the majority of people in Northern Ireland who wish to remain part of the United Kingdom, was bound to start at a disadvantage.

Next week's business

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be Monday's Debate on the Brands report The Common Crisis.

UK leading way out of recession

FINANCE BILL The United Kingdom's financial policies now represented the broad consensus of international opinion, said the British Chief Secretary to the Treasury.

Shipbuilding move fails

HOUSE OF LORDS What has happened so far in a number of instances of the sale of public sector assets has been a public scandal, speaking for the Opposition, said the report of the British Shipbuilders Bill.

Parliament today

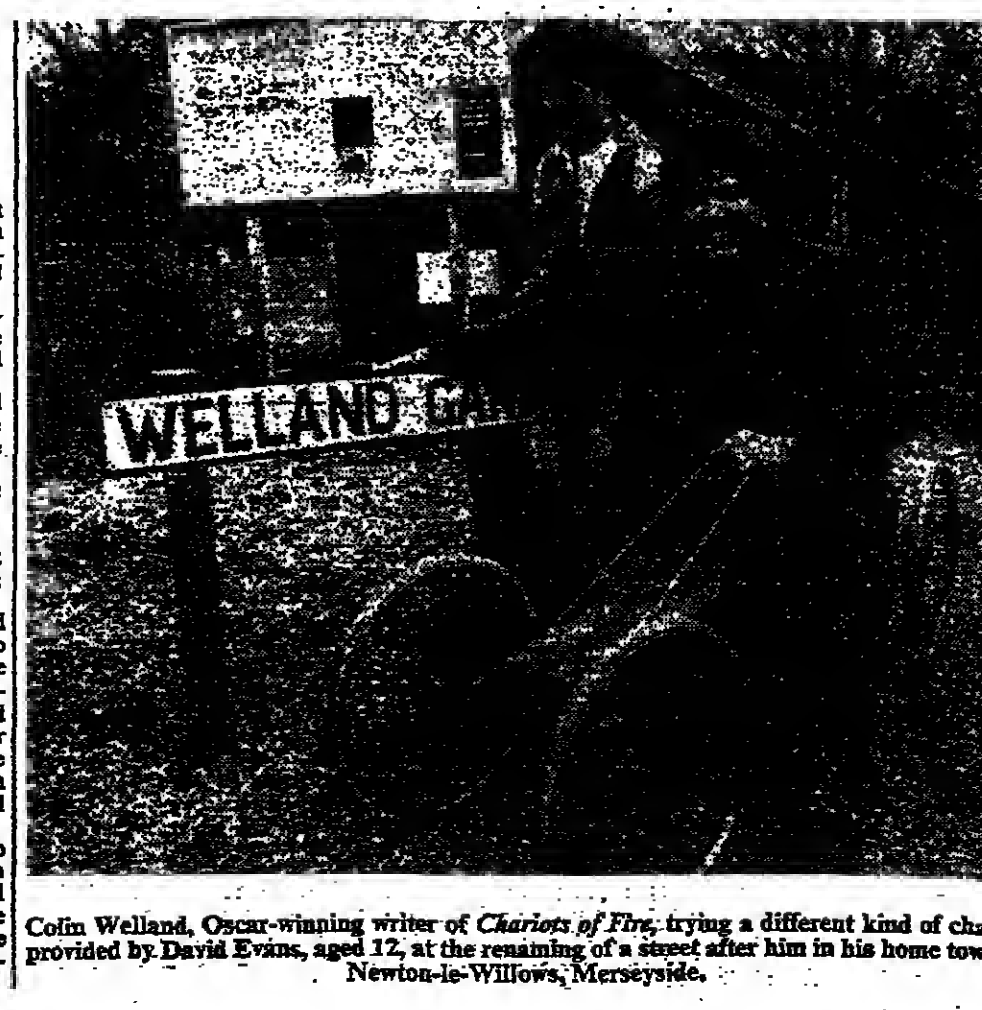
Commons (9.30) Debate on private member's motion on UK dependencies.

Foreign Service postings oversold, MPs say

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter British servicemen and their families posted to Hongkong are finding that life there is not all they had hoped and been led to expect it would be.

Resort boycotts Mencap in holiday hotel clash

By Craig Seton Mencap, Britain's leading organization for the mentally handicapped, has been told to stay out of an increasingly bitter controversy in the Devon seaside resort of Teignmouth over a hotel which specializes in holidays for the handicapped.



Colin Welland, Oscar-winning writer of *Chariots of Fire*, trying a different kind of chariot provided by David Evans, aged 12, at the remains of a street after him in his home town of Newton-le-Willows, Merseyside.

Foreign Service postings oversold, MPs say

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter taken to achieve a better balance. It stated: "This is a problem of man management and... a determined effort to educate a serviceman about unfamiliar difficulties would probably be rewarded by improvements in morale."

South African Indians tell Attenborough to stay away

From Michael Hornsbury, Johannesburg

Most leaders of the South African Indian community believe Sir Richard Attenborough should not come here next week to attend the opening of his award-winning film *Gandhi*, which will be shown only to racially segregated audiences when it goes out on general release. His presence, it is felt, will be leading respectability to apartheid.

Most Indians also feel, however, that because of its message of non-racism and non-violence, it is better that the film should be shown to segregated audiences than to none at all. "If people, and especially the Government, change their feelings as a result of seeing it, I would be very happy," Mrs Susheila Gandhi, a daughter-in-law of the Mahatma, told *The Times* yesterday.

Bishops will not stay silent, Mugabe told

From Stephen Taylor, Harare

In a studied reply to an attack 10 days ago by Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, in which he described them as "sanctimonious prelates", Zimbabwe's Roman Catholic bishops today upheld what they call a duty to speak on political matters when individual rights are involved.

In a statement to mark the third anniversary of independence on Monday the bishops said they regretted the unfortunate situation in some parts of the country, but said there were indications that life in the ravaged province of Matabeleland was returning to normal after bloody anti-insurgency operations by the security forces.

"Drought relief is being resumed, curfews are being lifted, stores and schools are being reopened and bus services are being restored," they said. The latest word from the bishops comes on the heels of an Easter pastoral statement in which they denounced army brutality, which they said had resulted in a reign of terror. Hundreds of peasants had been killed, maimed and raped in wanton atrocities.

Mr Mugabe, responded some days later by bitterly censuring the bishops, saying they had submitted to external pressure to condemn the Government. In their latest statement, the bishops say they do not see these exchanges as marring the good relationship between the Government and churches and that their sole objective in speaking out had been to promote true and lasting peace.

Nuclear freeze vote delayed by Republicans

From Mohsiti Ali, Washington

Republicans forced the Democrat-controlled House of Representatives to postpone until next week a vote on a resolution calling for a halt to development and deployment of new United States and Soviet nuclear weapons.

Democrats are confident that the non-binding resolution will be easily adopted probably next Wednesday. The Republicans had prepared about 40 amendments aimed at weakening the resolution, which is strongly opposed by President Reagan.

Opponents of the freeze said the resolution would prevent the administration from modernizing US nuclear forces to match the big Soviet military build-up. The postponement came on Wednesday, after a long debate.

Swedes accuse Russia over spy submarine

From Christopher Mosey, Stockholm

An official government report on an incident last year in which a foreign submarine entered Swedish waters off the top-secret eastern naval base of Muskö is expected to disclose that the Soviet Union was responsible for the incursion, using it to test new underwater vehicles, it was reliably reported yesterday.

The report by the parliamentary commission appointed by Mr Olof Palme, the Prime Minister, will be published on April 26 but details were leaked yesterday by the newspaper *Dagens Nyheter*. Members of the commission refused either to confirm or deny this story.

The Soviet Union has repeatedly denied it was responsible and the identification could lead to a diplomatic dispute.

Drifting pack ice takes polar walker south

By Richard Dowden

There was no relief again yesterday for David Hempleman-Adams, the 26-year-old British man who is walking alone to the North Pole. The aircraft which drops his food supplies has been delayed for six days by bad weather and his emergency rations are designed to last for only seven days.

"He will not die of starvation yet. He will eat out his rations", Mr Martin White, his London-based contact man said.

"But his problem is working out an equation. He usually consumes and uses up about 7,000 calories a day. His emergency rations give him only 20 or 3,000 calories a day, so he has to do less or even stay still. This means he is actually

going backwards at the rate of three miles a day, because the pack ice drifts south as it melts. "He is very depressed, but it is my guess he will not give up yet. He is very, very determined and very strong", Mr White said. The 60ft ice ridges are behind him and the temperature has risen from minus 50C to minus 35C. The possibility of a break in the ice becomes more likely with every day that passes. Nearer the Pole, there is also a greater danger of being attacked by polar bears. Virtually every North Pole expedition has been harassed by polar bears. Mr Hempleman-Adams is carrying a light rifle.

Gibraltar unions 'black' Royal Navy fleet

Protest against dockyard closure

From Richard Wigg, Gibraltar

The Navy visit here, which has been roundly condemned by Spain's Socialist Government, has run into familiar British-style trade union trouble. Water and fuel supplies have been cut off from the 11 warships and two submarines led by the aircraft carrier *Invincible*, with Prince Andrew on board, which docked on Wednesday.

The action by union members among the 1,400 employees in the dockyard was intended as a protest against its closure. However, it naturally became entangled with the Madrid protest to the clear embarrassment of Mr Joe Bassano, branch Secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, and who is also leader of the Gibraltar Socialist Labour Party. He agreed to cooperate with the

Navy in "special cases" after a storm of protest greeted the start of what was to have been a 48-hour blacking to stop the fleet being readied for the Spring Train manoeuvres due to start on Monday. Mr Bassano promised the blacking would not prevent the Navy being ready to sail from Gibraltar as scheduled on Monday. He admitted his union members would not suffer. Over the weekend they would be paid double time.

He said the nuclear-powered submarine *Splendid*, which arrived an hour after the blacking had begun, was given shore-supplied electricity and yesterday, the flagship *Bristol* was attended to, because its water-making equipment had broken down. The blacking had earlier prevented the destroyer getting shore water.

A Navy spokesman admitted that the blacking, ordered by the Gibraltar Trades Council, was "causing a lot of inconvenience to sailors a long time at sea and described the situation as 'unfortunate'.

Watched by only two of the three Spanish vessels which witnessed the arrival, the Spring Train force of about 4,000 officers and men did training exercises aboard their ships, according to the spokesman, who said any further details were "naturally secret".

The blacking, has been condemned by Sir Joshua Hassan, Gibraltar's Chief Minister, as ill-timed and playing into the hands of the colony's enemies. It has also evidently made the unions unpopular among many ordinary Gibraltarians.

Mr Wilfrid Garcia, president of Gibraltar's Chamber of Commerce, emphasized how much Gibraltar needs Navy visits, both economically and politically.

"We can only count on Mrs Thatcher for gestures like this", he said. "The Foreign Office does not seem to be getting it message that Gibraltar's economy has got to be supported so that it does not matter what the Spaniards do."

The Spanish protest, he said, was dictated by a belief that they had a commanding position in negotiations with Britain over the Rock's future, because the colony's economic difficulties had been increased by last December's partial opening of the frontier with Spain.

● MADRID: Dispatching the British fleet to Gibraltar was "an anachronistic act, politically not a very intelligent act", Señor Fernando Morán, Spain's Foreign Minister, said in an interview broadcast here yesterday by the state-run national radio, Harry Debelius writes.

Señor Morán was interviewed by a radio reporter on his arrival in Mexico City, his first official stop on a Latin American goodwill trip which will also take in Colombia. He left Madrid on Wednesday.

The opinion of Señor Felipe González, the Spanish Prime Minister, was somewhat more subdued. He said that his Government would maintain "the necessary balance between prudence and firmness", while at the same time "acting bilaterally and in other forums to make it plain that we consider the British action to be out of proportion with Spain's own conduct".



Mitterrand explains expulsions

From Diana Geddes, Paris

President Mitterrand has denied the expulsion from France earlier this month of 47 alleged Russian spies and their families was in any way intended to be an act of hostility toward Russia.

It was the first time that Mitterrand commented in public on the affair. He was being interviewed on Swiss television on the eve of a two-day official visit to Switzerland.

"It is normal that when a country discovers illegal activities being carried out on its territory, it reacts," Mitterrand said. "That should surprise no one. It is not a special act of hostility towards the country in question... My relations with the Soviet Union will be excellent the day that both of us understand that mutual respect is the best of international law."

● As the two Britons expelled in a "tit for tat" retaliation left Moscow yesterday, diplomats said they were puzzled by continuing anti-French statements in the Soviet press, which could indicate that the Soviet Union does not intend to retaliate against France on a large scale, Richard Owen writes.

At Moscow airport Squadron-Leader David Williams, the assistant Air Attache, and Mr Anthony Robinson of the *Financial Times* were seen off by a large group of friends and colleagues, including Sir Ian Sutherland, the British Ambassador.

Eitan's insults rebound

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

A bitter political argument has erupted in Israel over remarks made by the outgoing Chief Lieutenant-General of Staff, Rafael Eitan, who boasted to a Knesset committee this week that, after Israel had further multiplied its West Bank settlements, "all the Arabs will be able to do is scuttle around like drugged cockroaches in a bottle".

A group of 18 left-wing Knesset members, including 10 from the main opposition Labour Party, have written to Mr Moshe Arens, the new Defence Minister, demanding that he reprimand the general and describing his remarks as "a stain on the honour of the Army". Another deputy, Mr Itzhak Toubi of the Rabah Communist party, has written to the Attorney General urging him to prosecute General Eitan for "racist remarks".

The controversy began on Tuesday when the Army commander, an officer noted for his outspoken political views, made his farewell visit to the all-party defence and foreign affairs committee, during which he read out a satirical poem dedicated with "respect and contempt" to Mr Yossi Sarid, one of the most dovish members who belongs to the Labour Party.

The supposedly satirical Hebrew verse made reference to people who crawled up the tails of animals and found themselves covered to what parliamentarians later translated as "manure".

Questioned about the recent spate of stone-throwing attacks against Israelis in the West Bank, General Eitan was reported to have told the meeting

he saw no reason why it could not be stopped. "All we need to do is carry on with our settlement effort and increase it," he said. "When 100 settlements are established between Nablus (the largest occupied Arab town) and Jerusalem, there will be no stones thrown at Jews there."

To the astonishment of some committee members, the general - who is due to retire later this week - then added: "When we have settled the land, all the Arabs will be able to do will be to scuttle about like drugged cockroaches to a bottle." His

remarks were later compared by reserve General Matti Peled, a leader of the Israeli peace movement, to the terminology of the Nazis, who frequently referred to the Jews as "rats" and "lice".

The demeaning reference to the West Bank Arabs, combined with the reading of the obscene poem (which General Eitan had apparently composed in advance), have cast a further shadow over the retirement of Israel's second longest serving Chief of Staff. He had earlier been disgraced by the Kahan Commission report

Cairo second thoughts on Reagan proposal

From Our Correspondent, Cairo

Egypt is reassessing its commitment to the Reagan plan in the light of the initial failure of talks between Jordan and the PLO on implementing the American proposals, a Foreign Ministry official here said on Thursday. He emphasized that Egypt did not consider the Reagan plan dead, but said: "We have no firm position on it."

Dr Ussama al-Bazz, President Mubarak's chief foreign policy adviser, said on Wednesday that Egypt would "float fresh ideas to reconcile differences between Jordan and the PLO," but the Foreign Ministry declined to say what these ideas were.

Dr al-Bazz was reacting to a statement by Mr Yasir Arafat, chairman of the PLO executive, who said to Stockholm: "We shall do our best to continue these joint talks with the Jordanians."

Asked whether Egypt was prepared to proceed with establishing normal relations with Israel if the Reagan plan died and the Israelis continued building settlements in the West Bank, a Foreign Ministry source replied: "That is a very difficult question."

The only condition on the return of Mr Saad Mortada, Egypt's ambassador to Tel Aviv, was a timetable for an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, he said, but that was only one aspect of normal relations.

● KHALDE: Israeli, Lebanese and United States negotiators resumed talks informally here yesterday in their continuing efforts to secure a withdrawal of foreign troops from Lebanon, AFP reports.

Stolen kisses in a crowd

From Our Correspondent, Melbourne

A warm kiss on the cheek for the Prince of Wales and a more courtly kiss on the hand for the Princess, darling of the Melbourne crowd yesterday.

The city is the last point of call in Australia for the royal couple who fly to New Zealand on Sunday for a two-week tour.

As with every leg of their Australian tour, the Prince and Princess were given a rousing welcome when they arrived at the airport.

During speeches of welcome it was announced that hundreds of deprived and orphaned Australian children will have a special present from the couple when they leave for New Zealand.

The Princess has been given hundreds of toys, books and stuffed animals for Prince William during her progress through the towns and cities of Australia. So the royal couple have decided to give something back. The huge pile of presents will be shared with children in homes and orphanages throughout the land. Mr Victor Chapman, their press secretary, said:

"Like the thousands of bouquets the Princess has received during her visit, which are sent to hospitals, government authorities have been asked to distribute the presents to those who would appreciate them most."

Prince Charles assured the Melbourne that Prince William would be "taking back with him countless presents" and would need no more.

Today the royal couple will visit different parts of Victoria

Algeria 'in £300m arms deal with Britain'

Britain is about to win a £300m arms deal with Algeria, the military journal *International Defence Review*, said in London. It includes six 120ft fast patrol boats from Brooke Marine, of Lowestoft, Suffolk.

The Algerians are also ordering two tank landing ships from Brooke Marine and Vosper Thornycroft, Helicopters, 20 to 30 British Aerospace Hawk jet trainers, and armoured vehicles.

The export agreement, or "memorandum of understanding," has not yet been signed, the journal adds.

31,500 Sikhs pledge lives

Delhi (Reuters) - Thousands of Sikh volunteers took vows in the city of Amritsar to sacrifice their lives for their cause in an intensification of the Sikh militant campaign in Punjab.

Harmand Singh Longowal, leader of the Sikh Akali Dal party, presided at the oath-taking ceremony which 31,500 took, he said. A force of 100,000 is planned.

Struggle ends

Bologna (Reuters) - Italy's left-wing Prima Linea (Front Line) guerrilla group, once the most powerful group after the Red Brigades, has abandoned its armed struggle against the state, Signor Paolo Zambianchi, one of its leaders, told journalists while on trial. Last year 87 of its members were jailed for a total of 467 years.

Finnish bribes

Helsinki (Reuters) - Six executives of the Finnish company Siemens Oy have been charged with bribing officials (between 1975 and 1982) to obtain orders, a public prosecutor said. Officially employed by Helsinki's underground railway and the national post office were also named.

Russian shot

Moscow (Reuters) - A Russian named only as V. Vecher, accused of taking part in massacres of villagers during the Second World War, has been shot as a war criminal, a Soviet newspaper reported. He was sentenced to death by a Leningrad military court.

Sicily arrests

Palermo (AP) - Police took into custody 12 people for questioning in connection with the killing on Tuesday of Antonio Sorci, 78, known as Nino the Rich, and his son Carlo. The elder Sorci was a suspected drugs smuggler.

B52 found

Las Vegas (AP) - An American B52 bomber which disappeared on Monday was found after a two-day search through snow and rain to have crashed into a southern Utah mountainside, killing all seven crew.

Nuclear leak

Brussels (AFP) - Slightly radioactive water is leaking from the Tihange nuclear power plant in the Ardennes, the operating company Intercom said. The pollution was insignificant and the plant would be shut for about 10 days.

Trouble at mill

Bombay (Reuters) - More than 1,000 striking textile mill workers, including their leader, Daya Samant, were arrested in Bombay for defying an official ban on demonstrations. They tried to protest outside homes of MPs who have yet to solve the city's 15-month-old mill strike.



TEACHER'S. A WELCOME AWAITING.

The message of Chicago

American blacks flex their new-found muscle at the polls

From Nicholas Ashford Washington

This week's election of Mr Harold Washington as the first black Mayor of Chicago was dramatic confirmation that the black electorate in the United States is becoming an increasingly visible and strategically crucial voting block.

If it had not been for a massive turnout by black voters, who comprise about 40 per cent of the city's registered electorate, Mr Washington would not even have won last February's Democratic primary. Conversely, if Mr Washington had not emerged early in the contest as a viable candidate, then many blacks would not have bothered to vote at all.

The Chicago election has important implications for the Democratic Party as it prepares for next year's presidential elections. Blacks form the single most cohesive element in the Democratic Party coalition, and a massive show of black voting power as witnessed in Chicago this week could enable a Democratic president to move into the White House again in 1985.

However if the party is seen to be leaning too far in an effort to capture black support it will risk alienating the same kind of white voters who moved en masse from the Democratic to Republican camps in the Chicago mayoral contest. The race issue is very much a two-edged sword.

The result also contains important lessons for the nation's black leaders as they discuss whether to field a black presidential candidate in the 1984 primaries. Some believe that Mr Washington's cam-



Rev Jesse Jackson: Seeks "coalition of rejection."

paign, which attracted the support (albeit belated) of most national Democratic Party leaders, proves that black political progress is best achieved by working from within the party. Others, however, among them the black political activist, the Rev Jesse Jackson, maintain that a black presidential candidate is needed not only to symbolize the growing strength of black voters but also to dramatize the plight of blacks and other minorities.

Blacks account for 10.5 per cent of the electorate, yet only 20 out of 435 US congressmen are black. There are no black state governors. Only at city level, in places like Los Angeles, Atlanta, Detroit, Washington and Birmingham, have blacks made it to the top, a fact that reflects the changing demographics of American cities.

However, over the past two years blacks have increasingly started to flex their political muscles.

Just how important the black

vote has become was summed up in a new study by the influential Joint Centre for Political Studies in Washington, which said: "A Presidential Democratic victory in 1984 is inconceivable without a strong black showing in northern cities and the south."

The study noted that the black vote was heavily concentrated in six northern states - Illinois, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Ohio and Pennsylvania - which are of vital importance in presidential elections because of the large numbers of votes they carry.

It is statistics such as these that have persuaded some black leaders that it would be worthwhile fielding a black presidential candidate.

Mr Jackson, president of People United to Save Humanity (Push), who has already been testing the waters in Iowa and Rhode Island, wrote in a recent article that a black candidate would force the Democratic Party to have a greater appreciation of the black vote.

"Eighteen million black voters," he wrote "can be the cornerstone of a new coalition of the rejected (the real silent majority) that can create new political options in 1984."

Others disagree, arguing that a black candidate could divide black leaders and drain support from the Democratic nominee.

The question of a black candidate will not be settled until next month, by which time black leaders will have had time to study how the present Democratic runners propose dealing with issues of special interest to blacks.



Chaos in Rhineland as floods recede

Bonn (Reuters) - Flood waters from the rain-swollen Rhine began to recede yesterday but officials said it would take weeks to repair damage in Cologne, Bonn and other Rhineland towns.

Much of the historic old centre of Cologne was still under water, swamping restaurants, bars and nightclubs and causing a third day of traffic havoc.

One bar owner, typifying the humour with which residents have adapted to life under 3ft of water, set up bar stools in the street outside his flooded establishment and served beer to the firemen.

Police in Cologne had to set up roadblocks to keep away thousands of sightseers, presaging a glimpse of the worst floods in 15 years, who were hampering relief workers.

As the floods receded in Bonn, murky water still washed around the entrances to the Bundestag building and in one low-lying part of the capital postmen delivered the mail by boat yesterday.

Flooding also receded in eastern France after five days of widespread inundation in which 12 people were reported to have died. But officials said the situation was still worrying east of Paris where the levels of the Seine, Marne and Yonne rivers were likely to continue rising for another five days.

West German river police said barge traffic on the Rhine, West Europe's busiest inland waterway, would not resume before Sunday at the earliest.

Rhineland city officials said it was too early to assess the cost of damage but an official in

Koblenz, where flooding was the worst since 1926, said he feared severe damage from heating oil which had seeped out of flooded basements.

Trade and agriculture sources said planting of summer grain crops in West Germany was running three to four weeks behind schedule because of prolonged heavy rain which had waterlogged fields even in areas unaffected by the flooding.

Insurance companies said most flood victims with ordinary household insurance policies would get no compensation but state authorities have promised tax relief.

Telephone lines were cut in parts of Cologne and Bonn and in several villages on the Rhine and Mosel. Agriculture sources said only about half of the planned summer grain crop, usually planted by the end of March, had been sown so far.

In the Mosel valley, a district official said, flood damage to hotels, restaurants and wine cellars would run to millions of marks. Growers in the vineyards of Bernkastel and Piesport, which produce world-famous white wines, feared that heating oil could have seeped into the wine barrels.

Flood water had also washed the labels off vintage bottles, making it impossible to identify wines.

In Cologne, officials said the water level should fall back below the city's protective dyke enabling firemen to begin pumping away flood waters.

They said a key tunnel on the Rhine side expressway, had been protected from flooding by giant steel gates which withstood the water pressure.

Oil slick meeting founders

A burning oil well spewing flame and smoke in Iran's offshore Nowruz field, north of Kharg Island. The photograph was taken by a crewman on a passing oil tanker.

Wide differences between warring Iraq and Iran yesterday forced a further postponement of talks in Kuwait on capping the shattered Iranian oil wells which have been spewing crude into the Gulf since early March, conference sources said.

Ministers from eight Gulf states, including Iran and Iraq, had hoped to meet in full session in the morning.

Amid claim and counterclaim, Iraq said yesterday Iran's latest offensive had been defeated with 9,832 troops killed and "not one inch" of Iraqi land lost.

Earlier Tehran announced that Iranian forces had captured 12 square miles of Iraqi territory and killed 6,400 Iraqi troops in their latest drive.

Tehran radio said another 900 Iraqi troops had been killed or wounded during a counter-attack at dawn on Wednesday.

Letter from Moscow

Still a market among Russians for miracles

Just outside Moscow proper, in what used to be the countryside until Khrushchev started expanding the city limits with high-rise flats, there is a miraculous spring. Nowadays it emerges from a little red tin, has a waxy texture and is supposed to cure any ache or pain.

Rather more common are mustard packs, which can be bought in chemists but are often home-made. They are widely held to be an all-purpose cure for colds, bronchitis, pneumonia, high blood pressure and all the unidentifiable aches and pains brought on by the stress of modern life. Slap on a mustard pack is every rooster's answer to illness.

Belief in such remedies affects both high and low in society. The Vietnamese ointment was recently offered to a young ministerial adviser.

Vodka, of course, is another popular panacea. Taken with salt, vodka can allegedly cure most stomach complaints, or so most Russian men argue convincingly.

But is the miracle working power of water which has a special hold on the Russian imagination. Not long ago a Soviet newspaper exposed an old man and his son who were selling "boly water" at an exorbitant profit in a village in the Ukraine. The paper said their fame had spread far and wide and hundreds of sick people gathered every day to buy boly water (which in fact came from a tap) at five roubles a jug.

The swindlers had accumulated thousands of roubles worth of cash and gold, and boasted eight cars. The old man's reputation for miracle-working had been so great that he had been able to earn in one hour as much as a qualified doctor could make in three months and his patients had "rised from simple people to intellectuals".

It was a sign of the times, the paper noted, sourly, that when the two tricksters were arrested most of the people they had "treated" were angry with the authorities.

The fact is many Russians are sceptical of modern medicine, and home remedies abound, most of the based on herbal brews which have their origins in Russia's peasant past. Russians place great faith in healer's such as the lady who treated the late President Brezhnev. She spawned numerous imitators who claimed to be able to heal through the laying on of hands, and whose customers included five-star generals and top party officials.

Another powerful trait is the persistent belief in the efficacy of eastern potions. One of the most popular remedies at the moment is a Vietnamese ointment called "Gold Star". It comes in a little red tin, has a waxy texture and is supposed to cure any ache or pain. Rather more common are mustard packs, which can be bought in chemists but are often home-made. They are widely held to be an all-purpose cure for colds, bronchitis, pneumonia, high blood pressure and all the unidentifiable aches and pains brought on by the stress of modern life. Slap on a mustard pack is every rooster's answer to illness. Belief in such remedies affects both high and low in society. The Vietnamese ointment was recently offered to a young ministerial adviser. Vodka, of course, is another popular panacea. Taken with salt, vodka can allegedly cure most stomach complaints, or so most Russian men argue convincingly. But is the miracle working power of water which has a special hold on the Russian imagination. Not long ago a Soviet newspaper exposed an old man and his son who were selling "boly water" at an exorbitant profit in a village in the Ukraine. The paper said their fame had spread far and wide and hundreds of sick people gathered every day to buy boly water (which in fact came from a tap) at five roubles a jug. The swindlers had accumulated thousands of roubles worth of cash and gold, and boasted eight cars. The old man's reputation for miracle-working had been so great that he had been able to earn in one hour as much as a qualified doctor could make in three months and his patients had "rised from simple people to intellectuals". It was a sign of the times, the paper noted, sourly, that when the two tricksters were arrested most of the people they had "treated" were angry with the authorities.

Richard Owen

Strikers seize Eiffel Tower

From Diana Geddes, Paris

Medical students in Paris marked the beginning of the third month of their strike yesterday by occupying the Arc de Triomphe and the Eiffel Tower, while doctors in teaching hospitals announced they would continue with their strike, which has brought chaos to hospitals throughout the country for the past three weeks.

Both groups are protesting against Government reforms aimed at the democratization and reorganization of what is still a highly conservative and elitist profession, and which is suffering from acute over-manning. The number of doctors in France has tripled in the past 20 years, and unemployment is now a serious problem among newly-qualified medical students.

The strike by an overwhelming majority of junior doctors and senior registrars in teaching hospitals is over planned reforms which, the doctors say, will reduce their status, severely limit promotion prospects, and harm the quality of specialist training, thereby leading to an overall long-term decline in the standard of medical services.

Until now doctors have continued to provide a minimal level of service: all emergency cases have been exempt from the strike, having failed to achieve any satisfaction in their talks with the Government.

The Federation of French Doctors said yesterday the situation was becoming alarming. Some hospitals are already operating at less than 50 per cent of their normal level of activity.

Their non-violent actions to publicize their nationwide strike have been imaginative and often spectacular. They have included the release of hundreds of laboratory rats and mice in public buildings; the plastering over of parking metres; the blocking of railway and Metro lines; the occupation of the Strasbourg cathedral spire; the removal of paving stones, to carry out "open-heart surgery" on Paris streets; and the scattering of thousands of nails on motorways.

Mitterrand begins Swiss tour

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

Economic problems, including the tight currency restrictions on French tourists, loom large in the talks President Mitterrand is having during a crowded 48-hour visit to Switzerland, the first by a French President since M Armand Fallières came here in August, 1910.

He was greeted at Zurich airport yesterday by his Swiss counterpart, M Pierre Ansermet, Minister of Foreign Affairs. They went on by special train to Bern, the federal capital. In a formal address of welcome, the Swiss President referred to "friction points" and underlined the need for both governments to "energetically resist the temptations of protectionism".

As a trading partner of Switzerland, France comes second only to West Germany and the French account for about 9 per cent of tourists in Switzerland.

The French party includes the Ministers of Foreign Trade and Tourism, who are having separate meetings with their Swiss opposite numbers. The Swiss public awaits with



Guard of honour: President Mitterrand at Zurich - Kloten airport yesterday.

interest the "symbolic gesture" M Mitterrand has said he will make with regard to "Napoleon's debt".

This is the claim periodically put forward by Bourg St Pierre, on the road to the Grand St Bernard pass, for payment of a 45,000 Swiss francs bill for food, materials and manpower of which Napoleon's forces

availed themselves when crossing the Alps into Italy in 1800.

While France has maintained this was settled under the 1815 Treaty of Vienna, Bourg St Pierre contends it received only a 45,000 franc token payment, and has successfully exploited its claim in more recent times to keep its name on the tourism map.

Primate defines attitude to women priests

From W P Reeves, Wellington

Dr Robert Runcie, the Archbishop of Canterbury, said here yesterday that he would be willing to take part in Anglican communion services in which women priests were involved, but he would not preside over them.

Dr Runcie said it would not be best for him to preside jointly over a communion service in which women priests took part.

He said that he was among those who said "not yet" rather than "never" to the ordination of women.

Unlike the Church of England, the Anglican Church in New Zealand ordains women priests.

The Archbishop is due to attend a luncheon with Anglican women clergy in Auckland on April 26.

China asks New Zealand to buy more

Wellington (Reuters) Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Chinese Prime Minister, yesterday discussed possible joint ventures with Mr Robert Muldoon, his New Zealand counterpart.

Mr Muldoon told a press conference after the two-hour meeting that the Chinese leader was interested in more joint ventures in China, but added: "They should be further advanced before I say anything about them."

Mr Muldoon said the talks showed there was clearly a good relationship between the two countries. Mr Zhao had raised the issue of the trade imbalance between the two countries, asking New Zealand to buy more goods from Peking to reduce it. But it was "not a major issue between us", Mr Muldoon added.

Argentine parties campaign furiously for members

From Andrew Thompson, Buenos Aires

In the past few months, Argentina's political parties interrupted. "Well if we don't have one, let's order a last-tube baby. Anything is better than this." Another voice chimed in: "There are no miracles. The only solution is the organization and struggle of the masses."

The parties' campaign is taking place under a law passed by the military Government last September. To obtain electoral recognition the parties must prove they have a membership of more than four per thousand names on the electoral roll in each district.

For national recognition they need to meet the minimum level in five districts, and achieve a national membership of at least two per thousand of

the electorate. There are 24 electoral districts in the country. The big parties closed their recruitment drive on March 30. Other groupings considered new under the Government's legislation have another two months to gather members. The elections are due to be held on October 30.

It is a complex process. A new member signs four membership cards. He keeps one, the party keeps one, and the others are passed on to the electoral court for verification. There have already been some problems. Some over-enthusiastic citizens seem to be joining various parties. There are also cases of errors in the way the forms are filled in. The membership cards must be labori-

ously cross-checked against the electoral rolls.

A further factor is that the mass parties - the Peronists and the Radicals - have yet to lay out their internal struggles. The different factions in these parties are measuring their strength in the recruitment drive. These parties must hold conventions to elect authorities and nominate candidates before the September 10 deadline.

There are no hard figures yet, but some general indications of how the parties are faring. The Peronists claim that they are leading the membership battle, with 1,300,000 cards handed in to the electorate authorities. The Radicals say they are on 800,000 and rising. Among the other parties, the

Movement for Integration and Development, the Intransigent Party, the Communist Party and a handful of others are confident that they will secure national recognition. These claims have yet to be confirmed by the electoral authorities.

While some opinion polls give the Radicals the edge in the overall campaign, seasoned political observers expect the Peronists - who have won every election they have been allowed to take part in since 1945 - to gather most votes (bearing a major internal crisis splitting the movement).

In their scenario, the Peronists might end up short of an overall majority, and 1984 could see a coalition government.

Pisani challenges press over aid to Ethiopia

From George Clark, Strasbourg

Reports in the British press that food aid sent to Ethiopia is not reaching the starving people for whom it was intended and that some had been diverted to the Soviet Union to pay for weapons for the Ethiopian Army were firmly denied by Mr Edgard Pisani, EEC Commissioner for aid to the third world, in the European Parliament yesterday.

Although he did not specify it, his main target were reports from Simon Winchester published in The Sunday Times. He produced a bulky dossier which he had received from Addis Ababa on Wednesday and claimed that it contained documentary evidence which showed that the food had reached the starving people, both in the area controlled by the Ethiopian Government and the guerilla-controlled areas.

He challenged journalists and others to provide evidence to back their claims. They had to acknowledge that Western ambassadors in Addis Ababa and the Asian and African bureau had investigated and found that the distribution was satisfactory.

Mr Pisani said that since January 1981, the EEC had sent 68,000 tonnes of cereals, 7,000 tonnes of skimmed milk and 4,000 tonnes of butter oil to Ethiopia and its distribution had been supervised closely by voluntary aid organizations. It is not true that it had gone to feed the Ethiopian Army.

On the allegation that some shipments were transferred to vessels going to the Soviet Union, Mr Pisani declared angrily: "That is not true. Never at any time has anyone produced proof of this."

Arms bill twenty times bigger than that for aid

From John Earle, Rome

The cost of a nuclear aircraft carrier is more than the gross national product of 53 of the world's poorer countries. World military spending is expanding rapidly and stands at 20 times the total of overseas development aid.

These figures were quoted by Mr Edouard Saouma, director general of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, in a speech in Rome he appealed for the grain surpluses of the main producing countries to be used to help developing countries to build national reserves against future shortages.

The developing countries themselves, Mr Saouma told FAO's committee on world food security, spend yearly as much on armament imports as on their total food imports.

Handwritten text at the bottom of the page: 448/101250

THE ARTS

Cinema

Having a disconcertingly wonderful time

- Sophie's Choice (15)
Empire 1
- The Young Ladies of Wilko (PG)
Camden Plaza
- The Clinic (18)
Classic Haymarket
- Tales of Ordinary Madness (18)
Screen on the Hill; Studio Oxford Circus
- G'Olé! (PG)
Classic Oxford Street

Why was Sophie's Choice Pakula's choice? To elaborate why should someone as stylish and intelligent as Alan J. Pakula direct - and, for the first time, write - a relatively impersonal adaptation of a widely-read novel? Despite the film's virtues, its confident powers of evocation and skilled performances, this nagging question refuses to fade away.

William Styron's bulky novel, published in 1979, tells the semi-autobiographical story of a young Virginian in postwar Brooklyn, fleeing his writing muscles in the volatile company of two fellow lodgers - Nathan, a moody charismatic Jew, and Sophie, a Polish Catholic survivor of the Holocaust. Pakula diligently reduces a discursive volume to cinematically manageable proportions; time and again he demonstrates his sensitivity to the dramatic possibilities of light, colour and the architectural quirks of everything from staircases to Brooklyn Bridge. The balance of light and shade within Sophie's apartment is skilfully moderated to suit the emotional mood; when flashbacks transport us to Auschwitz, the images are drained of colour, rendering the commandant's garden flowers hideously eerie. The inspired photographer is Nestor Almendros.

Sequence by sequence, moment by moment, Sophie's Choice is easy to appreciate. Pakula's scenes are sharply hotted and scrupulously atmospheric, and the three main performers generally play with well-modulated fervour. Peter MacNicol grins with boyish eagerness as Styron's alter ego Stingo; Kevin Kline (Nathan) unconvincingly swings from elated fooling to mad rage. The one partial exception is Meryl Streep, who fractures her



Celebration of friendship: Peter MacNicol (left), Meryl Streep and Kevin Kline in Sophie's Choice

English and signals her emotions with such meticulous precision that one sometimes cannot see the character for the acting. This may be a performance that wins off Oscar, but it is also ripe for parody.

Yet the film's sum total remains curiously incoherent, and for explanation we are drawn back to the persistent question of Styron's novel, and Pakula's muted response. Perhaps it is our English reserve that balks at the American obsession with celebrating friendship, but the continued spectacle of excited individuals having a wonderful time undoubtedly strikes a dead nerve. Styron deliberately sabotages the wonderful times with despair and guilty secrets: that's one of the novel's points. But the film's sabotage operation is infelicitous: the revelations about Sophie's and Nathan's characters come far too late properly to jolt our perceptions, while the Auschwitz sequences make their effect more through macabre background detail than foreground action. At the end of the day - and two-and-a-half hours - Sophie's Choice leaves us with brilliant scenes, but an incoherent framework.

The Young Ladies of Wilko, by comparison, is beautifully unified - a sustained reverie about the impossibility of recapturing love's young bloom. Both style and subject may seem surprising, for the director is Andrzej Wajda, recently known for abrasive dramas about Poland's turmoil. The present film, however,

was made in 1979, after *Man of Marble* and *Rough Treatment* had before the Gdansk strike and *Man of Iron*. In place of the familiar restless pursuit of uncomfortable urban corners, Wajda's camera dwells longingly, quietly, on the landscapes and interiors of a country estate in the inter-war years. Yet Wajda has inhabited this cinematic territory before, notably in *The Birch Forest* (1970) - a film with the same literary source (the Polish writer Jaroslaw Iwazkiewicz), the same rustic landscape, thoughtful demeanour and male star (Daniel Olbrychski), and related themes of love and death.

Olbrychski's current character may not face death, but his return journey to Wilko's young ladies certainly involves useful thoughts about lost youth. For the girls with whom he once spent a romantic holiday have drifted into spinsterhood, fretful promiscuity, boredom; only the youngest girl (played by the French actress Christine Pascal, discreetly dubbed) inspires any semblance of passion. We watch, fascinated, as past memories become enmeshed with present circumstances over outdoor walks, meditative arguments and dance sessions round the gramophone. Edward Klosinski's cinematography steers the images in beauty without ever drowning them in prettiness, and the ladies move through the drama with especially delicate resonance (particularly Maja Komorowska as the nervous, wanton Jola). If a

Martian visitor demanded urgent proof of Wajda's artistic importance, *The Young Ladies of Wilko* might not be the film to exhibit first, but it is unquestionably the work of a master.

The Clinic is an Australian film about a clinic for venereal diseases; enough said, you might think. Not so, thought the early close-up of a private organ crowded with a sticking plaster hardly inspires confidence. Yet, as the film wends its plotless way through the clinic's daily round, the makers' sympathetic, honest attitude becomes increasingly apparent. We have fun with, rather than at the expense of, the varied patients - the nervous adolescents and blasé regulars, the fastidious widow and the cheerful busker ("Hey folks, how you doing?" - there is no reply). Useful information about symptoms and remedies is also imparted; the scriptwriter Greg Millin worked in a VD clinic for three years. The film's mosaic pattern and low-key style help further in avoiding the excesses of sensationalism. Chris Hayward (the young assistant in *Newsfront*) heads a lively, responsive cast; the crisp, compact direction is by David Stevens, best known for his television work on *A Town Like Alice* and the wartime soap opera *The Sullivans*.

Marco Ferreri's *Tales of Ordinary Madness* - an Italian-French co-production filmed in English on Californian locations in 1981 - views the sexual experience from a far more unpleasant perspective; woe betide us

should Ferreri ever tackle extraordinary madness. The tales are spun by a sodden American poet staggering through life with a bottle in his hand, self-pity on his lips and lust in his head. It is possible, with effort, to imagine a good film from this material (derived from a book by Charles Bukowski). But Ferreri seems to have abandoned the purposeful anarchy of *Dillinger is Dead*, the film that made his reputation 15 years ago; now he merely offers the inert presentation of unedifying shocks. Ben Gazzara stumbles through with a glimmer of his usual eccentric fire; only the occasional landscape shot is worth salvaging.

G'Olé! is the official film of the 1982 World Cup football competition in Spain, directed by Tom Clegg (a sprightly British television talent), with Peter Boyle as the all-important supervising editor. Try to imagine a football equivalent of Syberberg's *Parsifal*, with the World Cup trophy as the Holy Grail and a plethora of injuries replacing Amfortas's single bleeding wound. Both films are trying experiences for the uninitiated, and both match sound with image eccentricity. The *Parsifal* cast much to a pre-recorded music track; the World Cup players mime their game to the accompaniment of crowd noise, a flautist score by Rick Wakeman and Sean Connery's bored narration. The total effect, to an unsporing spectator, is dangerously soporific; Italy win.

Geoff Brown

Television

Speed on the draw

"If you keep on playing snooker you are going to end no place," Sandy Higgins was told by his teacher, Stuart Lowe, who had noticed his pupil's absence and who subscribed to the belief, not entirely discredited, that proficiency in snooker is a sign of a misspent youth. Mr Lowe recalled his warning last night in BBC2's *The Hurricane*, a profile of Alex Higgins, the Embassy World Snooker Champion, who will be potting away for that title again tomorrow with the urgency of a man who must win one more game before the end of the four-minute warning.

Snooker has risen in general esteem since Mr Higgins started flying round the tables, misbehaving himself off them, and endearing himself to crowds with his sporadic brilliance and consistent unpredictability. None of the witnesses in last night's programme, written with an underlying tone of admiration by Hugh McIlvanney and produced by Mike Adley, denied Mr Higgins much of the credit.

Alex Higgins - his parents called him Sandy - was born in Belfast and was drawn to the local snooker hall, The Jam Pot, mainly, he said, because he was not supposed to go in there. By the age of 12 he was taking on his elders for money. His speed, he recalled, had been a matter of survival. If you played for money, lost and could not pay, you had to be quick to dodge a blow on the head with a cue end.

He tried his luck as a stable lad in Berkshire, but, said the trainer's wife, he never did what he should have been doing. A colleague thought his affection

for horses was second to his affection for betting shops.

Soon he was back in Belfast, serving a kind of apprenticeship at the YMC, playing for half-crowns and breaking opponents as well as the rules against betting. His life then, said an old friend, consisted of ham-burgers, bookmakers and snooker.

He represented Northern Ireland in the British Amateur Championship and crossed the sea to Blackburn to seek his fortune. He carried his cue like a lance and a plastic bag containing a clothes brush and a tin of boot-blacking. He was taken up by John McLaughlin, the first of what appeared to be a frame of managers whose disappearance from his life was sadly unexplained.

He won his first world championship in 1972, conceded to Ray Reardon at a point where the rules strictly prohibited him from doing so in the 1976 final, and came back triumphantly and tearfully last year.

Marriage and family, he said, not entirely convincingly, had calmed him down. His wife said he rang her twice a day wherever he was and was very considerate. The former world champion John Pulman said he was Jekyll and Hyde - "seventy-five per cent Hyde".

At the end he remained an enigma, looking something between a Thirties Broadway star and a Chicago hit-man and, telling us nothing about his motivation, but he was, as always, fast-moving entertainment.

Dennis Hackett

Concerts

Youthful charms

Sinfonietta/Pay Queen Elizabeth Hall

Music is charming again. On Wednesday the London Sinfonietta entertained with pieces by six British composers under 35, all making music that is smart, intricate and pleasurable; music to divert, or play at digging a little deeper, or maybe both. The temptation might have been to regard such a programme as a competition, but happily each piece was good enough and different enough to stand on its own.

Simon Holt's *Kites* came with a note explaining various references to Japanese kite-flying but this was not specially needed. In fact the piece was more like kites than kites really are. I did not hear much of sudden plummets, of desperate tugs on the line to keep the thing in the air, or chases across muddy fields in pursuit of escapers. All, rather, was beamed with beauty, snappily bright and sometimes suggesting Stravinsky in Far Eastern mood.

Jonathan Llynd's *Three Dances* confirmed him as one of the funniest composers around. He had the nice idea of writing these choreographies for his children: first an ABC jig for string quintet, hilariously inclined and madly off-beat, perfect baby music for adults, then a wind quintet boogie-woogie that kept snatching up its sibling's toys. The last dance was a teasing portrait of a child

yet to be born, again jazzy and again making progress like a monkey on a greased pole.

Robert Saxton's *Processions and Dances* ended the first half with music whose evident harmonic pull led the ear delightedly through the sober and spirited alternatives suggested by the title. And again Stravinsky was a potent presence, the work surviving a close encounter with the "Dance of the Earth" from *The Rite of Spring*.

The youngest of these six composers, Mark-Anthony Turnage, provided the looggiest and weightiest of the pieces. Its title, *Before Dark*, was enigmatic; it could have been the middle of a chamber symphony with its short scherzo followed by a complex set of variations unwilling to extricate themselves entirely from the earlier character. Once more there was a vigorous injection of jazz, a strange taste in a child of 1960.

Simon Bainbridge was represented by a *Concertante in moto perpetuo* that was kept in feverish circling activity with the help of Gareth Fulse as oboe soloist. Finally, Antony Pay conducted his players in a spellbinding account of Oliver Knussen's *Ophelia Dances*, a work that knows exactly how to be pretty without being feeble. It can be had on record along with other music by Knussen and Bainbridge, new, strong music that comes like so much in this concert from vivid imaginations.

Paul Griffiths

Sweetly timed

ECO/Del Mar Barbican

It seems strange that the man whose concerto debut at the age of eight provoked Leopold Stokowski to acclaim him as "the most astounding genius I have ever heard" should have been hardly known in London when he gave his Queen Elizabeth Hall recital last October.

Oscar Shumsky has chosen to spend his sixty-odd years teaching, conducting, and playing in the United States and is only just returning to the solo concert platform. In the month in which he is recording the Mozart concertos, he made his London concerto debut on Wednesday at the Barbican with the English Chamber Orchestra and Norman Del Mar in a programme which began with Rossini's *Silken Ladder* Overture and ended with Beethoven's Eighth Symphony.

Both were happy companion pieces, for Shumsky's art is one that delights in both theatricality and sophistication and in the sort of childlike wonder and capriciousness that shoots through the veins of the Beethoven. All those elements were present in his Mozart Violin Concerto No 5 in A, projected in a gently individual performing style which nevertheless seemed to be born naturally out of its purely musical purpose.

The ECO had to be, and were not quite always, on their tiptoes in the opening movement, where speed was generated by bright rhythmic insistence, only to be modified and expanded into lightly suspended passages of release, each phrase finely hewn, each staccato note brushed into being by an extraordinarily deft bow. Similarly, the patrician phrasing of

the Adagio, lightly floated above the orchestra like a semi-improvised vocalise, quivered at the same time with a tautly contained inner germ of life. It stole almost imperceptibly into the closing Rondo-musette, tenderly and minutely varied in its every refrain.

Saint-Saens's Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso, written for the young Sarasate, showed the same shy animal spirits liberated into a delightfully nonchalant virtuosity. At once uncannily youthful and sweet with the distance of time, it demanded an encore: a Bach Partita, with a new structural rigour, a shining strength of tone and keenness of pointing.

Hilary Finch

Theatre

Rich imagery of Ruskin's self-searching

Plague Wind New End

Whistler's 1878 libel suit against Ruskin for the famous gibe that he had "asked two hundred guineas for flinging a pot of paint in the public's face" is just as rich in rhetoric and drama as the Oscar Wilde case - Whistler, like Wilde, relished the spotlight and the solo role - but is seldom, if ever, dramatized. Strange, since the spectacle of art trying to justify itself under the extreme verbal scrutiny of a court of law is mesmerizing even when it does not illuminate, as the *Lady Chatterley* trial showed.

Ruskin, already subject to bouts of nervous illness, could not appear in court but James McDonald's play puts him firmly at the centre of the case, and the case at the centre of his own self-examination. Every critic worth the ink is as stringent with his own work as the work he criticizes, and Ruskin, despite his eloquence and professorship and so forth, could also ask whether he might "speak on ethical subjects though not chastened by a woman's love", and wonder how far his vision of a "looming epidemic wind" of artistic decadence sprang from his own frail mental health.

That is the focus of Mr

McDonald's play; and, despite the fascination of other moral and artistic issues, some masterly under-writing, purple over-writing and a good deal of really beautiful prose, it stays at the centre.

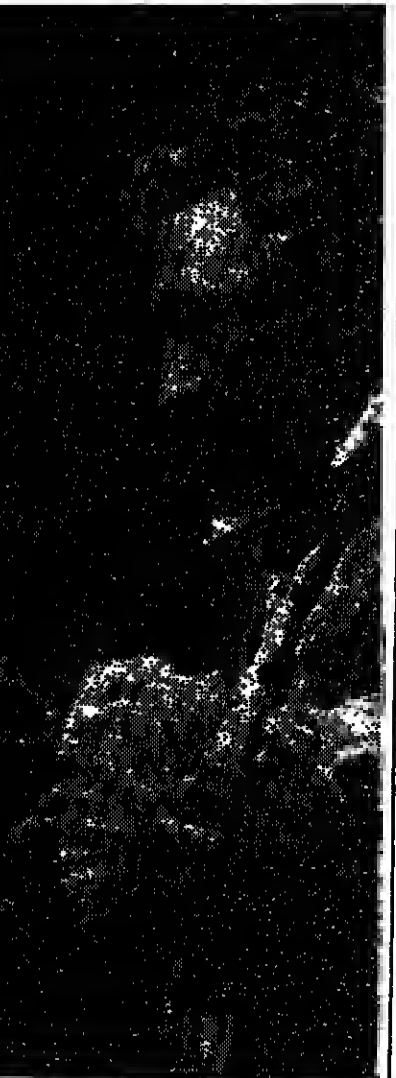
John Bot's performance is the best I have seen him give, for all of Ruskin's anguish, the intellectual fibre is still there. In his image of a filthy storm poisoning his garden roses and strawberries there is a terror for the sallying of the Nature he loved, and the art he felt should reflect it, that goes far beyond arid academicism and unbending abstract standards.

Accurately described by Ruskin as "coxoomb", Whistler

proves a splendid actor's part on the stage, as it did in life. Ian Thompson is podger than the original but deliciously formidable once monologues is stuck in eye and one of those relentless, relished sentences starts to roll.

Joseph Charles's production, though it could use textual cuts, is lovely to look at and successfully encompasses the shifts of idiom as Ruskin sees the trial (amusingly staged in formal kimonos) in his mind's eye and, by a final irony, dreams of the fireflies in the Siena hills in an image very close to the gold shower in Whistler's painting which drew ruin upon him.

Anthony Masters



Persuasive realism in *The Nine Night Bush*: T-Bone Wilson and Oona Kirsch as the son's English girlfriend

The Nine Night Bush

There is a paradise over the seas of sun, rum and cricket. In England there is only an occasional bottle of rum as a reminder for Hamon Williams, a Jamaican immigrant and still a stranger to his adopted country 20 years on. But his children talk with cockney accents and bring back white friends. His eldest son even wants to play football for England. "Football is not a sport, it is a game", retorts his father.

Edgar White's play, produced by the Black Theatre Co-Operative, outlines with sympathy the desolation that faces the generation who remember their youth in Jamaica. Mixed with Hamon's alienation to the "mother country" is his unhappiness at growing old. When he and his friend, Ferret, reminisce over a game of dominoes and a bottle of rum, or re-enact a sensational innings by Gary Sobers, they are going back in time as well as place.

His fierce protection of his home as a little piece of Jamaica is crooked by his own family. "England never came into our

house before - outside is England, inside is family", he protests. Finally he sees the only way of keeping the English influence out is to return to Jamaica. His unemployed younger son agrees to go, but the elder son and daughter and wife are rooted here, and Ferret breaks down at the thought of realizing his dream. "Everybody I know is either dead or in England - I can't go home."

The cast, directed by Rufus Collins, play with persuasive realism. T-Bone Wilson's Hamon sparks in an instant from depressed lethargy to almost hysterical enthusiasm. Dona Croil as his wife, Irene, has the put-upon but fighting back air of a woman trying to rid herself of the doorman image, and Jason Rose's Ferret reveals loneliness disguised by forced bonhomie. The writing is pungent and witty, though one or two contrived scenes do not quite work. The "confrontation" between Hamon and his son's English girlfriend fizzles out, but Irene's insidious adoption of domestic manners when welcoming a white face is a far more pointed commentary.

Clare Colvin

Wickedly funny travesty of Goldoni

La locandiera Teatro del Ridotto, Venice

There is no pity rendering in genderless English of the title of this richly naturalistic comedy, but let it be called "The Inkeeperess". Carlo Goldoni (often called "the Italian Moliere", although Moliere learnt his craft from Italians) was 60 when he wrote it and had left far behind the actor-dominated *commedia dell'arte* and precisely engineered farces such as *The Servant of Two Masters*.

A touring Neapolitan production of the piece has just reached Goldoni's native Venice. The house on the first night was small, but hardly because of audience resistance to staple classics. If anything it was a mark of protest, as it was of Sturford boycotting some more than usually outrageous case of monkeying about with the Bard. As written La

locandiera has a mixed cast of nine, but it was performed in this staging by three men.

The exigencies of this casting imposed some changes of emphasis. Goldoni's heroine Mirandolina is pursued by three inhabitants of her inn: two elderly nobles (one-mean, both jealous and lascivious) and the servant Fabrizio, to whom she was promised by her father on his deathbed. Also present is a young baron who is bored by women, finding them stupid, selfish and dogmatic. All this male arrogance offends Mirandolina, and she takes her revenge by teasing the old men, making the baron bested and Fabrizio be patient. Erio Masina, director, designer and drag artist, radically reinterpreted all that. The two old men - and Goldoni was good at old men - were largely lost and the action reduced to triangular confrontation between mistress, servant and baron. And, whereas Goldoni ends with Mirandolina promising to be a dutiful wife, the curtain-call here showed the

three of them sharing one bed - less a case of "La locandiera" than of "Il campello": the Italian press called it "diversa", "provocatoria" and "auto-gaia".

It was in addition highly theatrical, inventive and funny. At curtain-rise a tall box revolved teasingly above fluorescent footlights, spitting out a sexually ambiguous Harlequin and itself become a virtuosically adaptable set. The palpable values of Goldoni's world were undermined by bizarre switches of role and gender. Grotesque figures preceded to Vivaldi and Orff, paired off peculiarly to the swelling romanticism of Puccini, married to Mendelssohn and, thereafter, jiggered erotically on a see-saw to "Love is a Many-Splendored Thing". (Michael Bogdanov should take note: anyone attempting to complain about this last scene would be laughed out of court.)

None of these comic extravaganzas would have held the attention, however, without the

central performance of Erio Masina. His voice ranged from tinkling soprano to barking baritone; his movements (he is not a small man) were delicate without prissiness; above all, giving the curiosities of the convention he was establishing, he acted the role convincingly.

But, the absent Venetians might have asked, what had all this to do with Goldoni? Was it not a retrograde step that an author who fought to escape from mere theatricality into the richer world of naturalistic comedy should be travestied by an actor with one bizarre talent, a talent conceivably inimical to coherent drama? Masina himself hoped, at least for the benefit of the press, that Goldoni would not turn in his grave. Goldoni, high on his plinth in the Campo San Bartolomeo, smiled and said nothing. Actors and audience greatly enjoyed themselves. But one day I would like to see the play Goldoni wrote.

Tom Aitken

Dance

Joyce Trisler Sadler's Wells

Besides their group of historical revivals from the Denishaw period, the Joyce Trisler Dancecompany (what a silly, off-putting title) has brought works by three modern choreographers to London. Trisler herself, founder and director until her death, is represented by two-group ballets and a solo, *Journey*, to Charles Ives's *Unanswered Question*, a slight piece though pleasant enough.

Her *Dance for Six* has its case, jiggling about with agonized little steps to Virvadi's "Cottica", a striking what must be meant as

bold poses, except that none of the dancers has any amplitude of gesture to make them look interesting. The soft movement style derived from Disley's origins in Lester Horton's Los Angeles company is not heightened either by the dynamics that Bella Lewinsky developed from Horton's technique, or by the theatricality of Horton himself or his most famous pupil, Alvin Ailey.

It was brave of Trisler to tackle Hindemith's *Four Temperaments*, written for Balanchine and associated with one of his most inimitable ballets. Her version is a direct competition, but in doing so

ends up with a shapeless collation of sequences that makes little of the marvellous score (not that these dancers lack particularly sensitive to music anyway).

Milton Myers, who succeeded her as director, offers two short works to some ill-played Stravinsky. *Four Shades* is marginally more interesting than *Regime*, especially in the quick acrobatics of the second dance, where Regina Larkin and David Christel chase each other rolling across the stage; but again there seems no great regard for the score.

Koen was music by Stephan Mince that echoes oriental styles by setting breathy wood-

wind frobbing against the faint but insistent twang of bells. Gray Verdon's choreography is equally stereotyped and top-of-the-line. The women, in costumes by Penny Howell that make them look gift-wrapped, bow and bend submissively. The men, half-stripped for action, strut unconvincingly. Towards the end there is a momentary rebellion so that you cannot accuse the work of sexism.

After Sadler's Wells, the Dancecompany has other major engagements in Berlin, Paris, Washington and elsewhere. It seems a very minor company to be playing in such a big league.

John Percival

CATE
CATERING & ENTERTAINMENT
721 0236, 727 9752

PIXOTE
CATE BLOOMSBURY
2nd & 3rd floors

0 Ella Fitzgerald's BATTLE OF ALGIERS

10 QUESTION OF SILENCE

CATE MAY FAIR
2nd & 3rd floors

MAO TO MOZART

All major credit cards accepted

SPECTRUM

Violent, vigorous and vivid, India assaults the western sensibility. Next week, Trevor Fishlock ends a three-year term as South Asia

Correspondent of The Times: a period, he writes in his farewell to the region, during which 'there has been no dull day'

Mayhem in a mirror

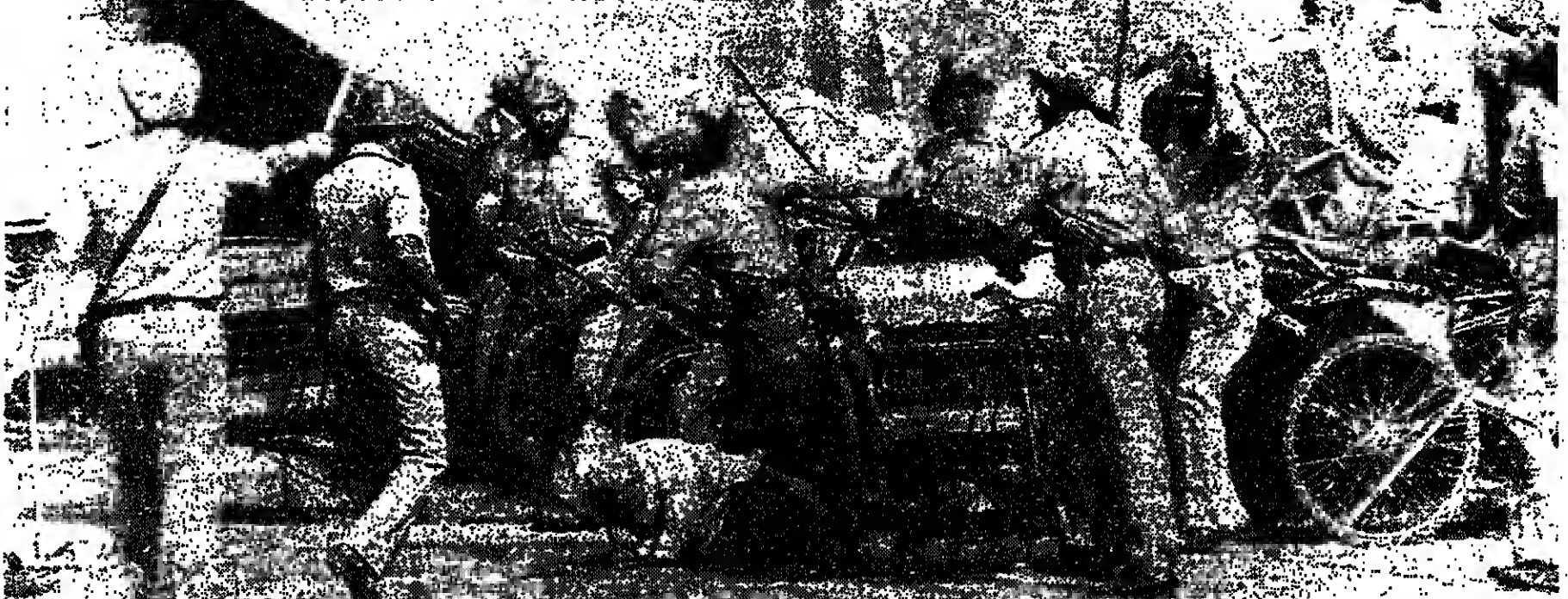
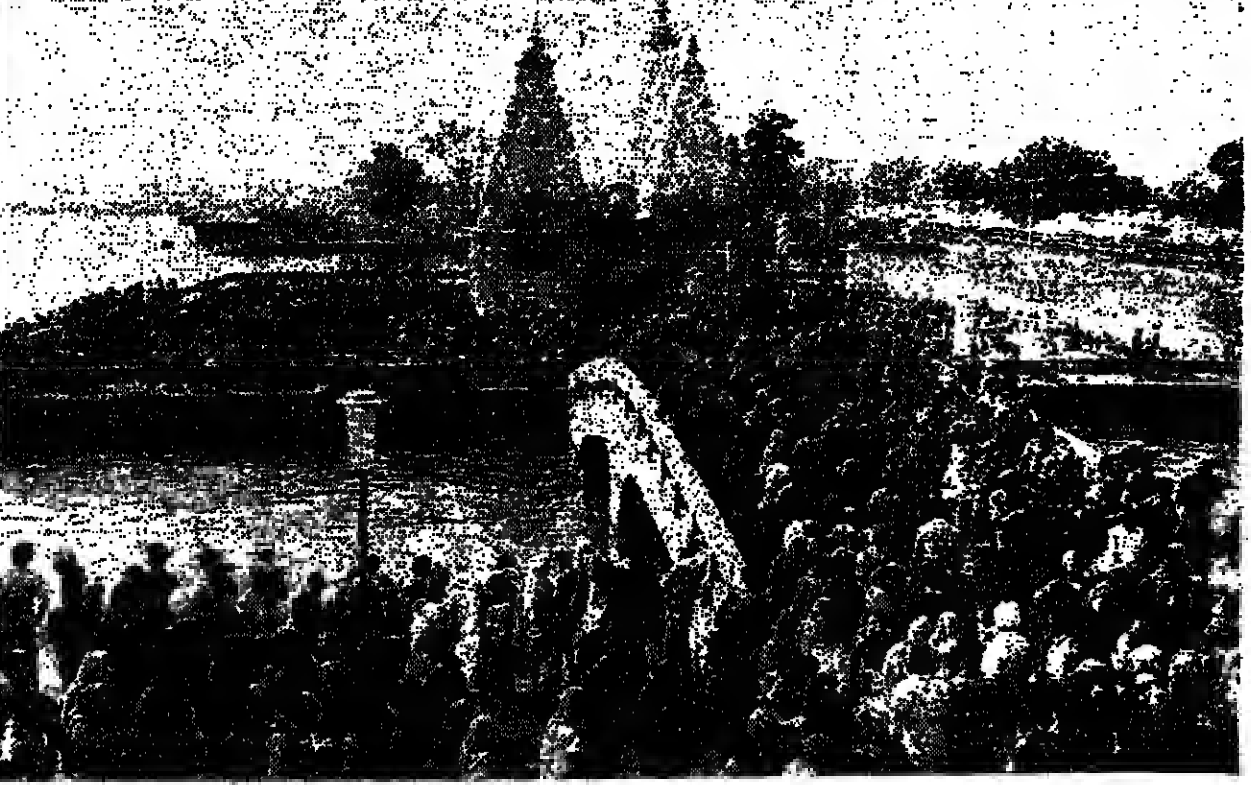
The newsboy's aim is perfect. He stops his bicycle at the front gate and hurls the morning newspapers across the lawn. They touch down on the verandah and skid into the front door with a bang, starting the mynahs who shriek Reveille in the lime tree and wake the dozing nightwatchman. Unfolded over a cup of tea, the papers present their chronicling of astonishments, contention, confusion, anarchy and change as 700 million Indians grapple with modern times, and each other, in their ancient land.

of her dead husband to challenge her mother-in-law. Without the name Gandhi the girl would be nothing. The papers are the main mirrors, for broadcasting is controlled by rulers who fear that free presentation of news would blow air on communal flames as well as shine too bright a light on government. There are few television sets and Indian democracy functions without benefit of box. Even without television, the hatreds of India's diverse communities seem sometimes to be spontaneously combustible. There is a deep and haunting fear of India splitting, of its centrifugal forces growing more powerful, which is why Mrs Gandhi talks often of unity and invokes the dread image of "the foreign hand", like a scolding mother telling her children the hngeyman will get them if they don't behave.

Fragmentation, however, seems unlikely. There is a broad devotion to the idea of the mighty Indian union and its democratic form, and even if Mrs Gandhi's centre cannot hold the union is unlikely to fall apart. Local troubles are self-sealing rather than infectious. The crises of Assam and Punjab, for example, are contained, and remote from the majority of people in a vast land. The dismal experience of the emergency left Indians more politically aware and convinced of democracy's value. India is also fortunate in having an army free of political ambition.

The papers reveal a country of continuous clamour, of striking imbalances and contradictions. Westerners sometimes romanticize Indian rhythms and values, but Indians themselves are more practical and honest and recognize that theirs can be a cruel and appallingly unjust society. They are their own fiercest critics, railing against their apartheid, repression, feudalism, slavery, jails filled with rotting forgotten prisoners and the terrible pressures of a rapidly growing population on hard-pressed land and resources. It is almost unnecessary to mention something as ingrained and rife as corruption.

There is not much social conscience, and one is struck by a certain heartlessness and selfishness. Life here can be a scramble and a jungle. People don't wait, they shove. When the firemen arrived at some burning shops near my home, the shopkeepers competed with bribes to have hoses turned on their shops first. I have seen people attacked by police lathis while milkmen hooted with mirth. For all the corrosives and contradictions, there are great strengths and stabilizers in Indian society. There are aspects of caste which are abhorrent to institutionalized cruelty and discrimination. But caste, like religion and the emphasis on family, clan and hierarchy, is part of India's backbone. In his caste a man may find identity, companionship, wife, job, political allegiance, prejudices and code for living. It is his shield in an unequal world. So, too, is his family, for Indians live in close family groups ruled by respected patriarchs. It is the family that provides the welfare, that even does much of the nursing in hospital. Nepotism is duty rather than sin. Most marriages are arranged by parents and most children like it that way. Marriage and family are important in being threatened by the uncertainties of love, choice and youth. The marriage advertisements in the weekend newspapers provide a remarkable insight, dealing as they do with practical matters like income, height and peculiarities of prospective brides and grooms. "Bride wanted for



Indian images: top left, Mrs Gandhi; top right, Kurukshetra, where 1 1/2 m gathered for a total solar eclipse; above, a battle between Sikhs and police in the Punjab

handsome boy. Has weak eyes but owns posh house." "Bride for Sikh, no turban, but keeps beard neatly trimmed." "Groom for 158 centimetre aristocratic wheatish-complexion girl with touch of whiteness near nails of hands and feet, but on no other place of body. Father top bank executive..."

The extended family has its tensions, but compensations, too. Divorce is rare, partly because expectations of bliss are lower than in the west, because society is male-dominated and because, with family honour, harmony and property at stake, there is greater support at times of marital friction. But things do go wrong and disgruntled parents sometimes harass their daughters-in-law, and may even set fire to them. Widows can have a hard time because they are thought to bring bad luck. Superstition is important and cannot be overlooked. Astrology is taken seriously and not much of importance happens in India without the starmongers getting in on the act. The intertwining of caste, religion and astrology underpin the acceptance of and submission to, one's earthly lot, and hold the carrot of hope for improvement in the next life. The

forces of caste and religion are part of the mechanism keeping the lower orders supine, which is one reason why India is unyielding granite for revolutionaries. Indians love to talk about India and confess they find it baffling themselves. The paradoxes are abundant but have to be confronted, like the poverty, indifference and squalor and the grotesque displays of wealth at weddings. The well-off have a horror of poverty; its proximity encourages them to strengthen their walls of financial security. There is a western idea that India is mystic. In reality it is emphatically materialistic. Its conflicts and contradictions arise not only from the heterogeneity of its peoples - myriad cultures, 15 official languages - but also from the inevitably uneven nature of its development. It occupies both the twentieth century and the Middle Ages. It has research institutes both for space rockets and for bullock carts. But then India is a land where the western mind, at least, has to adjust to amazement. Bandit chiefs surrender to Government ministers at public ceremonies, the equivalent of a Cockney robber giving up his sawn-off to Mr Whitelaw at Wembley Stadium. Indians are justly proud of their country and of its achievements since independence, although some of these are threatened by the problem of

population growth, which has not been seriously addressed and casts a deep shadow. They are touchy about criticism and sometimes rub western fur the wrong way by seeming complacent about the cruelties of their country, and far being ready to hurl stones from their crystal houses. But in these things, as in clerical inefficiency, Micawberism and temporizing, they are merely like most other people. India offers insults to the senses and sensibilities, and provides profound pleasures for them, too. It makes its daily impact on eyes, nose, ears and stomach. There is heat and dust; there are also mangoes and cool rain. To be in India is to experience a fortunate adventure, an opportunity to witness a massive struggle for improvement and a dramatic experiment in mass democracy, to observe advances as well as India's shrinking illusions. There has been no dull day, and India has left its vivid imprints. One day there were insects crawling in the breakfast cereal and I asked the cook to throw it away, along with the packet. In a land where there is little waste, he was scandalized. "I used to work at British High Commission," he said, "and always the carflakes are having insects. So we take them onto roof, spread them on sheet and when the sun is hot the insects run away. Then we give cornflakes to the sahibs."

Singer and poet Gil Scott-Heron is an incisive spokesman for black America.

Satire in search of a dream

Few visitors to Washington DC overlook the irony of black slums stretching back for miles behind the White House. The contrast makes the town a particularly appropriate home for America's leading black satirist and propagandist, Gil Scott-Heron, who is currently performing a series of three concerts at the Commonwealth Institute in London.

His scathing attacks on the American Establishment, half sung and half spoken, are backed by a fusion of black and Hispanic musical styles. The power of his vitriol and the infectiousness of his music have won him as many white fans as black.

Politically, Scott-Heron describes himself as a member of the Common Sense Party. Joining any organized group, he suspects, "tends to alienate you from the people you're trying to inform. And I'm an educator, not an organizer".

His manifesto is most tellingly delivered in a song called "B-Movie", written 10 days after Ronald Reagan's inauguration. A witheringly contemptuous but often hilarious look at the system which allowed the Actor-President to be elected by 26 per cent of the registered voters.

Scott-Heron was born in Chicago in 1949, his father a former professional soccer player from Jamaica. His first 13 years were spent with his grandmother in Jackson, Tennessee, where he learnt the blues, his central musical influence. When he moved to New York it was to live in his Puerto Rican district with his mother, a librarian. There he imbibed both urban poverty and street-corner salsa music. Stretching his lanky, languid frame, he explains that this experience "is what made me

the tallest Puerto Rican blues singer in the world". Scott-Heron interrupted his undergraduate studies (at Lincoln University, Pennsylvania) to publish two novels - *The Future* when he was 19, and then *The Nigger Story*. It was during this period, back in

Manhattan in the late 1960s, that he began to combine the old traditions of New York - jazz and poetry - with newer musical and verbal forms. After completing his BA, Scott-Heron took a Masters degree in American literature at Johns Hopkins University,



Scott-Heron: "I'm an educator, not an organizer"

bringing him to Washington, where he still lives with his wife and daughter. As his performing career blossomed in the mid-1970s he maintained a post-teaching creative writing at the University of the District of Columbia.

He attributes the failure of the black radical movement in the United States to the attempts of talented organizers, particularly the leaders of the Black Panthers, to become educators and leaders too. "Huey Newton and Bobby Seale were not philosophers. Their basic premise was self-defence. But when people started to ask them for a philosophy, they reached for that dialectic and this abstract. It confused more than solidified what their principles were. In America, you don't have to justify self-defence. The principle is simply 'I ain't gonna let these people walk over me any more'."

Despite his reputation and his growing success, Scott-Heron has his critics, characterized by one reviewer who, perhaps unkindly, compared him to "a youth leader laying down the right line". He replies that he was the originator of many of those "right lines". "We did a song about nuclear power six years before Three Mile Island," he says. "We did an anti-drug song, 'Angel Dust', at a time when other American groups were still pushing drugs on kids. We did a song called 'H2Ogate' 18 months before Nixon resigned. We did 'Johannesburg' before Soweto."

But Scott-Heron's satire - "my main tool" - defies easy ideological categorization. For, as he points out, "if music is universal, so is laughter".

Nick Rosen

Mixed doubles in the name game

Moreover... Miles Kingston



I don't know who is in charge of making up the names for international tennis stars, but he does a grand job. Reading the results of the Portuguese Open on Monday was a sheer pleasure, what with Mats Wilander beating Libor Pimek to get to the final, and Yannick Noah beating Jose Higueras. Even better was the men's doubles final, between Carlos Kirmayr and Cassio Motta, and Pavel Slozil and Ferdi Taygan. Kirmayr and Cassio Motta have the overtones of a couple of cocktails, with Pavel Slozil reminding me more of an East European plum liqueur, but on the whole these are genuine original names, and their inventor is to be congratulated. But then he has been around a long time, assuming he was also responsible for Wojtek Fibak and Vijay Amritraj, Vitas Gerulaitis and Guillermo Vilas, Jose-Luis Clerc and Ilie Nastase - and was it he or his father who invented the name which first attracted my attention to tennis, Jaroslav Drobný? Only in the English-speaking field has he occasionally been banal, with Stan Smith, Jimmy Connors and Arthur Ashe, though even there he has tried hard, with names such as Roscoe Tanner. And his run of luck in the 1960s with macho Australian names was impressive: Ken Rosewall, Lew Hoad, Rod Laver, Tony Roche. Spot on.

Tennis stands supreme as a provider of names, rivalled only by classical conducting. (Otto Klemperer, Antal Dorati, Geza Anda, Carlo Maria Giulini, Simon Rattle, Zubin Mehta - they could all be fine tennis players, with Rattle Lupa a dead cert for the men's doubles.) Motor racing is the only one which ever comes near it, with

its curious penchant for mixed nationalities: Emerson Fittipaldi and Carlos Reutemann, for instance.

British soccer, by contrast, is pathetic when it comes to the provision of names, with the plethora of Garys and Keonys, Trevors and Bobbys, Robsons, Nicholases, Francis, Neal, Wilson, Moore - can we really do no better than this? I sometimes suspect that footballers are allowed to retain their real names, despite the occasional flash of a Luther Blissett or Simon Stainrod, which shows that the old good invention is getting through. It is only a short step from here to pointing out that British tennis suffers from the same desperate lack of creativity. Does British tennis not avail itself of the service that provides names for everyone else? That is the only explanation I can think of for the presence in the past of Mark Cox, Roger Taylor, John Lloyd and Sue Barker, and in the present of no one in particular. When have the British ever produced a name like Evonne Goolagong or Martina Navratilova? No wonder Wimbledon cannot produce a British winner. It isn't the coaching at fault, it's the names.

With this in mind, Moreover Enterprises intend to sponsor a summer camp for future British tennis stars. Anyone can apply, as long as they have a match-winning name. Already we have one or two talented youngsters coming through, such as Bentwood Tarquin, Jarome Barrington-Oyster, Kalp Chinster, Wilson Slazboys and Fletcher Henderson. On the girls' side, we have already enrolled Kim Burling-

ton-Danes, Anaesthesia Rattle, Malvina Cortois, Euphorbia Stakelays and Blossom Rossini. Their tennis can come later - anyone can learn to play tennis - but their names are winners already. I look forward to hearing from others.

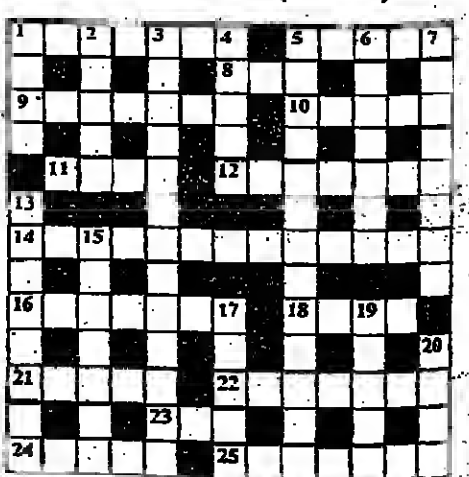
That this is not an idle pipe-dream is shown by further study of last Monday's *Times*. Under the Portuguese tennis report by Rex Bellamy there is a dispatch by Lewine Mair (at least our tennis writers have fitted themselves out with good names) on the British junior

championships, and I am delighted to see that she gives pride of place to the champion British girl, Shelley Walpole. Shelley Walpole! There's a name to beat the world with. I wish I had made it up myself.

Next week in SPECTRUM: Two extracts from Robert Fisk's *In Time of War* reveal Churchill's plan for Irish unity and Hitler's strategy for the invasion of Ireland

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 39)

- ACROSS: 1 Arouser (7), 5 Moist (5), 8 Needle hole (3), 9 Sogar (7), 10 Marketplace (5), 11 Pierce (4), 12 Made of clay (7), 14 Introduces wrongly (13), 16 Corneal scar (7), 18 Sway (4), 21 Witch's oath (5), 22 Nifty warty (7), 23 Down wind (3), 24 This day (5), 25 Shreds (7). DOWN: 1 Border (4), 2 Tribunal (5), 3 Awkwardly (13), 4 Manorial steward (5), 5 Car seat attachment (4, 9), 6 Water bird (7), 7 Identify disease (8), 13 Kitten (5, 3), 15 Goaded (7), 17 Property (5), 19 Nucleus (5), 20 Historical periods (4).



SOLUTION TO No 38 ACROSS: 1 Poetium 5 Poetry 8 Ago 9 Heaven 10 Strict 11 Goat 12 Gorgous 13 Terror 15 Cavity 17 Ghanaian 20 Neal 22 Rustic 23 Sought 24 Ult 25 Stayer 26 Aftard DOWN: 2 Odcon 3 Inviter 4 Manager 5 Poser 6 Eerie 7 Recount 14 Exhaust 15 Canasta 16 Venture 18 Natty 19 Incur 21 Abhor (Solution to No 39 on Monday) The dictionary recommended is the New Collins Concise

Handwritten text at the bottom of the page: 448/10/1350

FRIDAY PAGE

The Boss behind Honeybunch

In the bullet-proof parsonage where Eileen Paisley helps to pen her husband's fighting words, new red roses and old love letters keep romance alive

She calls him Honeybunch or My Sunshine and he calls her The Boss. Even after 26 years of marriage they can hardly bear to be parted and will telephone each other on the slightest excuse from the other side of the world...

Instead she has been shot at, blown up and even stoned. When I was a Belfast City councillor I went to open some new council houses and there was a republican demonstration. It was crazy, I had just voted against their rents going up...

part of the MP's sinister Third Force, each with a current firearms certificate, do not exactly smack of Christian charity. But to Eileen Paisley her husband can do no wrong. She is as loyal as Caesar's wife, and far more able.

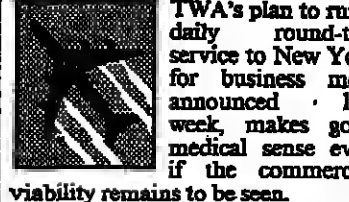


Eileen Paisley at home with the Bark of Belfast

tables and on the wall is a collection of spoons from just about everywhere. There is a Victorian exuberance about the house which transcends taste: 'I'm phooed me from all of those places', adds Eileen, proudly.

MEDICAL BRIEFING

When jet lag has no chance



TWA's plan to run a daily round-trip service to New York for business men, announced last week, makes good medical sense even if the commercial viability remains to be seen.

Dr Frank Preston, director of British Airways Medical Services, reminds us that the health advantages of a short stop-over have been a selling point for Concorde since BA first used it for their own there and back in a day service six years ago.

Decide to stay over, however, and Dr Prestoo recommends a more cautious approach. It is essential, he says, for anyone attending an important meeting to give him or herself one or two days before starting work.

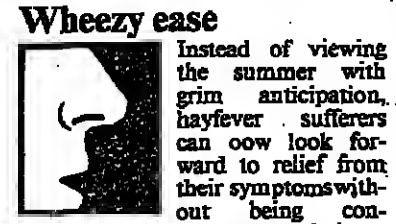
Just a thought Since the outbreak of the mysterious disease which is still gripping the Israeli occupied West Bank, doctors have been puzzling over two different questions.

What caused the outbreak in the first case, and why has it spread so quickly and affected so many people? Political tension has added to their difficulties.

On hypothesis put forward to explain the rapid spread of the illness is 'mass hysteria', which can be understood if you think in terms of ideas which affect behaviour being transmitted from person to person.

Mass hysteria in the twentieth century has tended to involve groups of young women at schoolgirls, with food poisoning as a common suggested cause.

Wheezy ease



Instead of viewing the summer with grim anticipation, hayfever sufferers can oodle look forward to relief from their symptoms without being condemned to a season under sedation.

More than two and a half million people in Britain get wheezy and itchy and develop a runny nose in spring and summer because they are allergic to pollens in the air.

The drugs, Triludan from Merrell Pharmaceuticals and Hismanal from Janssen Pharmaceuticals, are available on prescription from a doctor.

Triludan, in tablet form for adults and children over six, was launched last year. From this month a suspension of the drug for youngsters who find that easier to take is also available.

Bristol fashion Breast-feeding mothers who come across the latest device to help them artificially express their milk can be assured that it was designed with their interests at heart.

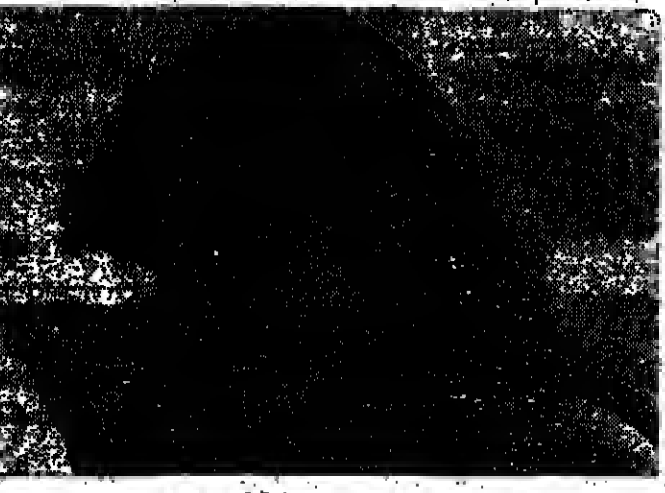
American-born designer William Sponcel, who is a medical student at Bristol University, has called his invention the Bristol Breast Pump. He says he wanted to acknowledge all the help he and his family have received from staff at Bristol.

Olivia Timbs and Lorraine Fraser

Sleeping pills: the doses and the dangers

A young death that broke no law

On January 31, the day that her mother was due back from a fortnight's holiday, seventeen year old Louisa put the finishing stitches in a tapestry cushion cover which was to be a welcome home present and made sure that part of a coffee cake she had baked was set aside for the returning traveller.



Louisa: anguish behind a carefree smile

Her mother, Theo, may never know the name of the doctor who prescribed these pills. It's probable that Louisa found her family doctor off duty, so it could have been any GP in Central London who, faced with a schoolgirl claiming rather frantically that she could not get a good night's sleep, reached for a prescription pad without paying much attention.

At the inquest, the coroner, Dr Paul Knapman, recording a verdict of misadventure, thought that Louisa had probably taken a small overdose to feign illness and so avoid going to school. Yet although the pathologist, Professor Keith Simpson, suggested that Normisoo was an unusual drug to prescribe for such a young girl, the coroner decided not to pursue the case further.

Professor Simpson agreed that it seemed unfair to pin the offence on any one doctor. He acknowledged that doctors tend to prescribe doses that are much too large, that such a highly-strung girl should perhaps not have been given any kind of drug but that such things are 'wrong but not unlawful'.

Paul, moved back home to stay with Louisa and was firm but sympathetic towards her youngest sister, who seemed to take rather a lot of time off school, saying that she felt sick. After three continuous days of absence, Elizabeth advised Louisa to see a doctor but not to get any pills. Like her mother, Elizabeth prefers natural remedies and the family medicine chest rarely has so much as a bottle of aspirin on its shelves.

TALKBACK

The bright side From Mrs Sheila Utting, 21 Curzon Place, Becontree, Pinner, Middlesex HA5 2PQ. With reference to Mrs Doreen Darby's letter (Talkback, April 8) may I offer advice to the millions of readers who suffer from distressing but not life-threatening complaints. I spend four days each week incapacitated by migraine and it is easy to lie in the dark swamped by self pity. The way to tolerate the kind of life imposed by my own problem is to concentrate on the quality of the three days in which I am well.

To focus on the days, hours, even minutes when free from pain or suffering can give a more positive and beneficial outlook. Relaxation whilst in an attack is a positive action - it may be difficult to achieve but the attempt itself is worthwhile for success brings a sense of achievement. I find inspiration and comfort in the memory of the late Sir Barnes Wallis who, speaking on radio, said that one third of his life had been given up to migraine - how much he achieved in the remaining two thirds. Mentally we have to be strengthened by overcoming the problems caused by adversity. Maybe we can be the ones who will inspire others.

Friendly mistletoe From E. C. L. Butler, 30 Mayfair, Post Hill, Tiverton, Devon EX16 4NQ. In the letter (Talkback, March 26) Drs Anderson and Phillipson quote from your Modern Times column of March 24 'mistletoe is good for headaches'. They point out that 'mistletoe contains at least four classes of particularly nasty compounds'. It is generally recognised that the berries from this plant are not to be used so one assumes that the writers were referring to the leaves. Jean Palaiseul, a French naturalist writing in Grandmother's Secrets, a recent Pagan book, says that mistletoe was in olden days used medicinally as the standard antispasmodic and was particularly recommended for persons suffering from high blood pressure. He adds that modern research has shown that it is an excellent natural remedy for arteriosclerosis and high blood pressure because of its action on the vaso-motor nervous system and that it is therefore included in various patent medicines; also that it features in a method of cancer treatment known as 'viscum therapy' which originated in Switzerland. A German publication states that mistletoe should be gathered between October and December or in March or April and agrees generally with M Palaiseul. It would be interesting to have further comments from those with a scientific knowledge of the subject.

THE TIMES Saturday THE INDISPENSIBLE WEEKEND GUIDE TO LEISURE, ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS Each week, The Times gives you the best selection of how to enjoy yourself. In tomorrow's edition: Travel: The myth and magic of Kos; and how to serve up a tennis holiday with Bjorn Borg. How to switch on to the Royal Family in your living room. Real ale: Has the great beer revolution gone flat? Theatre: Back to school with Angela Brazil's childhood classic. Values: How to extend your lifestyle with a Victorian conservatory. Plus How to make your garden grow; Portuguese wines; the new Wisden for cricket fans; Family Life on reptiles and spiders; Critics' choice of the best in films, theatre, galleries, classical music, rock and jazz, dance, opera and films on TV; bridge; chess and the top guide to The Week Ahead in arts and entertainment.

THE TIMES DIARY

Lower the boom

Concorde, the superset, is going into the package holiday business. Only on Wednesday night the plane started to BBC 2's QED, which breathlessly followed a first-class supersonic flight to New York, but now Thomson Holidays has completed a deal with British Airways to use Concorde to carry package holiday tourists to or from Cairo. The package, with one flight by more pedestrian jet, will cost about £900 for 14 days' half-board, and will be a feature of Thomson's Winter Sun brochure to be launched in May.

British Airways itself is using the plane for a two week tour of the United States in August which it is hilling as the "ultimate holiday" but for that even the cost is spectacular: £8,000.

Paxton Americana

The Americans are after another bit of our heritage, the Crystal Palace, 47 years after it was burnt to the ground. They want to rebuild it in Dallas. Just as the original palace was used at the Great Exhibition of 1851 to display the miracles of the industrial revolution, the Dallas version is intended to house computers. There will have to be some modifications. Air conditioning will be installed, instead of central heating, and the glass will be darkened to reflect the Texas sun. The American architects have sought advice from the Crystal Palace Foundation, formed four years ago to study the history of the palace, about the technical details of Sir Joseph Paxton's design. The foundation's chairman, Barry McKay, says: "We are amazed and delighted that anyone should want to rebuild it. It is going to cost them forty million dollars."

Costly move

David Pearce, secretary of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, was a planning appeal yesterday about the future use of the society's own headquarters, a listed and the staff insist, pretty ancient, building in Great Ormond Street.

The SPAB is moving to a fully restored eighteenth century building in Spitalfields, which is to be opened on May 24 by Tom King, the Environment Secretary. It has put its Bloomsbury property on the market, but Camden council had refused an application for some of the offices to be turned into residential use. Unless yesterday's planning appeal succeeds, the society fears it will not be able to finance its new headquarters, for which an appeal for funds has already been launched.

Arriving from Vienna at Heathrow Terminal 1, Jan Morris, the travel writer, put 50p into a change machine to make a telephone call. In exchange she got three Maltese and two Irish coins. She then used the Maltese coins to phone me, and used the others to ring home to Wales.

On the scent

Readers have again fulfilled my faith that they know everything. My story of the Australian underground orchid, first recorded 1982, then thought extinct and now rediscovered by satellite, received several ready explanations. Admittedly a few of you were as puzzled as I was, especially when in the paper the word "extinct" appeared as "exciting". This makes it less easy to complain that in the report I was referring to the year of the orchid's discovery, 1928, had been printed "1982". John May of Steyning tells me the satellite concerned is the American Landsat D, whose data identified the undisturbed bushland where the orchid might be found. The orchid has pale pink, vanilla scented subterranean flowers and it is still a mystery how it pollinated. Dr Richard Warren of Edinburgh supplied the plant's botanical name, *Rhizanthella gardneri*, and the fact that its discovery was reported in the Proceedings of the Royal Society of South Australia, 1928. John Ainsworth of Manchester volunteered that there is another underground orchid - but I began to think people were trying to blind me with science.

Marking time

Somewhere between the crucifixion and the resurrection the electricity failed in Warsaw's Atheneum Theatre and Alec McCowen's epic one-man recital of *The Gospel According to St Mark* was plunged into satanic darkness. McCowen had flown from London for the one-night performance to initiate a series of theatrical and musical events designed to thaw the freeze in Anglo-Polish cultural relations. One can forgive McCowen for wondering whether the Russians cut off the power, for sitting a few feet away in the front row was an actor who has made his reputation playing Lenin, to whom he bears a disquieting resemblance.

There is consternation at the Algonquin in New York, where Hamlet II, successor to the hotel cat immortalized in Val Schaffner's book, has been missing for three weeks. Coast-to-coast appeals in the press have brought calls from all over the States, but no cat. At first it was thought that Hamlet had gone for a sailing career at the nearby Plymouth Theater, "but they were only casting a kitten", says an Asnap, the Algonquin's managing director. Another theory is that Hamlet dined with a she-cat from the New York Yacht Club. If so it will be a platonic affair. Hamlet is neutered.

Animal abuse: the vets' dilemma

by David Coffey

A cascade of dubious concern over animal welfare has in recent years prompted the British Veterinary Association to manufacture more hardware for its war of political intrigue - namely more committees. Committees have examined the export of live animals for slaughter, the battery system and veal calves, with little noticeable effect on the welfare of the animals. Now a subcommittee is to consider laboratory animals; it is a safe prediction that it will do no more than tinker with the tinsel around the package of established practice.

A few years ago the animal welfare committee was conceived, presumably to coordinate the views of the various professional factions and to advise the BVA on welfare matters. This committee was no exception to the rule. Peopled by part-time politicians pushed into office, it has lamentably failed to fire the imagination.

It has, for example, given much tongue to the detrimental effects of airguns in the hands of small boys, while it has studiously ignored the adverse welfare consequences of shotguns manipulated by rather older lads.

The difficulty facing the profession results from its chronic condition - corporate schizophrenia. While it has always claimed to be principally interested in animal welfare it has in fact been subservient to its clients.

As long as there was no conflict between the farmer's expectations and that of the veterinary surgeon - healthy stock kept under traditional systems of management - the professional ethic remained unchal-

lenged. Veterinary surgeons judged the welfare of their patients simply in terms of physical well-being, taking their psychological state for granted. Our understanding of the complexities of the animal mind has in recent years been greatly enhanced by the relatively new science of animal behaviour. This growing awareness has sadly been confounded by the technological revolution which has permitted, indeed encouraged, the intensification of animal management systems, on the farm and in laboratories, which ignore their psychological needs.

Our dilemma as veterinary surgeons is clear. Should we retain our professional status, subservient to the agricultural and pharmaceutical industries whose declared and sole objective is profit, and insure for ourselves a reasonable income? Or should we try to ascertain the limits of abuse to which animals can reasonably be subjected, in order to provide them with adequate welfare standards?

If, as I hope, we opt for the latter, it will be necessary to establish a general concept of animal welfare. While science can make important contributions, happiness, contentment, frustration and pain are important subjective experiences which cannot be objectively identified or quantified. Nevertheless most reasonable people would accept that such feelings probably exist in animals, as they would concede that animals feel hunger and the need for sexual fulfilment.

Some years ago a detailed report of a working party convened by the Very Rev Dr Edward Carpenter, Dean of Westminster, entitled "Animals and Ethics" was presented at a press conference. The compilers included eminent theologians, veterinarians, ethologists, agriculturalists and members of the Animal Welfare Movement. While it would be foolish to pretend that this was the definitive concept of animal welfare it was certainly worthy of consideration. The presidents of both the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons and the BVA haughtily declined to attend.

If the BVA wishes to be taken seriously as a participant in the discussion on animal welfare it has to assume more humility and consider the subject in much greater depth.

The veterinary profession has a fine record of service to animals, however hamstrung it may have been by the need to earn a living. Many members are well aware of, and subscribe to, the need to consider the psychological as well as the physical needs of domesticated animals or those kept in captivity, and they could make a considerable contribution to the general discussion. It will indeed be a shame for the profession as well as for the animals if that knowledge and concern is stifled, shackled and finally submerged by a small group of the profession's politicians whose real objectives and motivation are often obscure.

The author is a veterinary surgeon and former research officer at the Ministry of Agriculture.

© Times Newspapers Limited, 1983

Geraldine Norman on the inside dealing over the Sotheby's bid

Going but not quite gone to Cogan and Swid

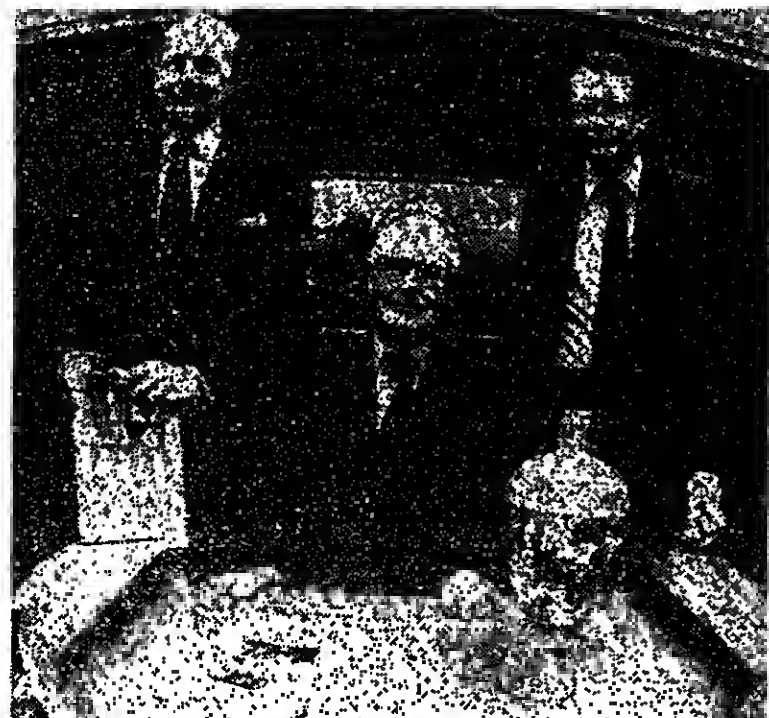
Sotheby's have discovered a word to describe the absence of sympathetic understanding that is lacking between themselves and the unlikely American Mr Cogan and Mr Swid, who are trying to buy the whole Sotheby's empire for \$100m.

It is synergy, defined by Webster's as meaning combined action or operation (as of muscles or nerves). Sotheby's say there is a lack of it between themselves and the American bidders.

Nerves, not to mention raw emotion, are showing in both camps as the Americans try to muscle in. Graham Llewellyn, Sotheby's chief executive, has been letting his passion show when speaking to the press in comments such as "we wouldn't recommend the offer at any price" or "I'll blow my brains out if they succeed". Julian Thompson, who was appointed UK chairman last year, and who knows more about Chinese porcelain than almost anyone else in the world, looks white and drained as he makes a superhuman effort to discuss the issue without emotion.

That is the picture in Sotheby's Bond Street headquarters where the serious conversation between small huddles of friends lapses into silence as a stranger walks by. Only rarely are officials officially permitted to communicate with the outside world, one for the management and one for the staff.

About 130 of the expert staff in London have told the Americans, in a letter which seems to stem from a very senior levels in the company, that a takeover would cause them "immediately to consider alterna-



Graham Llewellyn, Gordon Brunton and Julian Thompson of Sotheby's: no reserve.

tive employment". The management pressed this home when they met Cogan and Swid last Sunday, pointing out that experts might resign en masse and set up a new auction operation, collaborate with an existing auctioneer to build the business or leave individually and join rival dealers. So far no attempt seems to have been made to concert a strategy. Indeed one is quickly told of the legal barriers preventing employees forming a steering committee or, indeed, taking any action that might damage the business that employs them.

Half a mile away, in a rented suite in Park St, Marshall Cogan and Stephen Swid are visibly shaken by the freezing reception they have had from Sotheby's board and the ferocity with which the firm is fighting to keep them out.

"He's the smart guy. I'm the good looking one", says Swid, explaining the double act. "It is a matter of 'Marshall and I think...' or 'Stephen and I decided...'". They make it very clear that their bid for Sotheby's is not a matter of one company taking over another but a personal matter of two meo who have seen a great international

business in trouble and want the excitement of putting their own business talents to work to sort it out. "We're winners", they say, pointing to their success with Knoll International, a furniture making group.

This is where the lack of "synergy" comes in. Nobody had ever heard of Cogan and Swid before they announced the acquisition of a 14 per cent stake in Sotheby's last December. They are nice guys from middle America who take their jackets off and roll up their sleeves.

If only they were famous, and better connected, Sotheby's might be able to welcome them as collaborators in building the business. They would then have some "synergy" with the millionaire collectors, jet setters and ruined aristocrats selling off their heirlooms who constitute the clientele.

The language spoken by Cogan and Swid, American business jargon, cannot convey the concern and approach of Sotheby's directors. Equally, the phraseology of Old Etonian aesthetic commercialism is not translatable into Cogan and Swid.

The two sides have clearly failed

to understand each other from the start - whether purposely or not is unclear - and have each latched on to minor matters as a source of bitter resentment. The first meeting between the two sides took place in December. Sotheby's were represented by Gordon Brunton, the non-executive chairman whose real job is running International Thompson, Graham Llewellyn, Sotheby's chief executive and former head of the London jewel department, John Marion, chairman of Sotheby's American board, and Jesse Wolff, deputy chairman and lawyer in New York.

Sotheby's are particularly angry over a press statement issued by Cogan and Swid. This, Sotheby's bitterly aver, has caused the firm to lose consignments.

In contrast, Cogan and Swid bitterly complain of Sotheby's imposing a total ban in all countries where they operate on anyone concerned with the firm speaking to them. "Sotheby's experts do not accept items for sale without looking at them personally and making an assessment", Cogan and Swid complain. "None of the experts have been allowed to look at us."

Last Sunday Cogan and Swid met Sotheby's main board and sought to explain what a good deal they were offering Sotheby's staff, with special consideration for experts and profit-sharing incentives. They then asked for a private meeting with departmental experts.

As "working experts" they singled out Julian Thompson, John Marion, chairman of the American board, and Peter Wilson, chairman of Sotheby's from 1958 to 1980, the author and architect of its international success. Wilson now lives in the south of France and "helps to find business" from semi-retirement.

The Americans thus pointedly left out Graham Llewellyn, a long-standing expert and executive. The Three "chosen" men successfully urged the addition of Jim Lally, the American expert on Chinese art, to the group.

One gets the impression from Cogan and Swid that this group were painfully aggressive and frank. But Wilson, behaving like a true gentleman, says Cogan and Swid.

Those of us who have watched with awe the ruthless genius for fixing deals - displayed by Peter Wilson over his 20-year run as chairman, and have fallen delighted victims to his charm, are entitled to ask "What's up?"

Bernard Levin: the way we live now

Urgent - put a cross for cockney Kate

union's biggest branch, in the Newcastle Central Office of the Department of Health and Social Security; of 6,000 members, there were only 40 left at the meeting when it finally got to the nominations for the union's national executive.

"The extremist Broad Left", says Mrs Losinska, "rely on our members' apathy to elect them by default", and that is precisely what happened at the last "general election" in the union, when the Broad Left gained control of the NEC by a majority of 34-4; the majority includes three members of the Communist Party and eight supporters of Militant, including the union's present president, Mr Kevin Roddy. (Mr Roddy, who is standing for president again, opposing Kate Losinska herself, does not seek to disguise his political affiliations, saying in his election address that he is a supporter of Militant and that "I have always proudly and openly declared where I stand". This could hardly be said by another member of the Broad Left, Mr Ray Alderson, who is standing for one of the two vice-president posts; in 64 lines of his appeal for election he cannot spare half a dozen words to mention that he is a member of the Communist Party. Nor does the Broad Left's main election leaflet do so - indeed, it carefully avoids mentioning any of the political allegiances of the coalition.)

The CPSA has always been, in the vital narrow sense, non-political; though many of its campaigns have obviously and inevitably been political in character, it has never, as

a body, supported any particular party. The Broad Left wants affiliation to the Labour Party, which cannot be enacted under the union's present rules; they have therefore proposed that the annual conference (which they can control much more easily than the elections) should change the rules to permit such affiliation; they have already passed a resolution for affiliation to CND. No doubt many members of the CPSA support CND or vote Labour; whether even all of these, never mind the others, want the union, for the first time in its history, to be affiliated to such bodies, is another matter.

Anyway, before that interesting question is answered there is a more urgent one. The CPSA elections are now in progress, and some indication of the apathy of the majority can be gained from the fact that only one third of the union's 1,100 branches have so far indicated even that they are definitely going to hold ballot-meetings. In the belief that the majority of the members want leaders who will continue to strive for better pay, conditions and union electoral procedures while rejecting political extremism, and the hope that they can be induced to go to their branch meetings and vote for such leaders, I now print the list put forward by the National Moderate Group in the Civil and Public Services Association. (The numbers before the names on the list for National Executive Committee are those that will be found on the ballot papers.)

For President (one vote): Losinska, Mrs K. M. For Vice-President

(two votes): Chambers, Mrs M.; Pemberton, F. For National Executive Committee (twenty-six votes):

- 2. Scott-Anderson, 50. Mylward, son, Ms S.
- 12. Billouin, J. 51. Newall, A.
- 16. Bruce, J. 54. Parry, Mrs S.
- 17. Butcher, J. 56. Pemberton, 18. Butterworth, F.
- G. 57. Poynitz, Mrs
- 2. Carr, A.
- 23. Chambers, 58. Price, Mrs J.
- M. M.
- 28. Elliott, C. H. 66. Simmonds, 35. Hepple, Mrs A.
- A. 69. Thomas, P.
- 36. Hickman, 71. Wilde, Mrs J.
- Mias M.
- 40. James, Mrs J. P.
- M.
- 45. Losinska, 73. F. Womersley, Mrs K. M.
- 49. Milnes, D. K. D.

Would members who wish to vote for the moderate slate please note that they should vote for Mrs Losinska for president and Mrs Chambers and Mr Pemberton for vice-president, but also for all three for the national executive, as a candidate defeated for senior office can still be elected onto the NEC.

Spitting into the wind is a thankless task; the best that can be hoped for from the exercise is an eye-ful of spit. Nevertheless, spit I must. To cast a vote in an important election which is part of our democratic process does not seem to me to mark with the underdog Hercules, even if the voter cannot do it sitting at home with his feet up but must go to a hall and be bored insensible for a couple of hours before he gets a chance to mark his card. Whether the members of the CPSA can be induced - by the hard work of Mrs Losinska and her allies or by my exhortation - to exercise their democratic right in their union's election I do not know. What I do know is that if enough of us fail to vote in enough elections we shall one day find that we no longer have any elections to vote in, and if the CPSA moderates are not sufficient to persuade the majority to turn out and vote, perhaps that thought may be.

© Times Newspapers Limited, 1983

David Watt

Putting Carter in perspective

"Come back Jimmy Carter. All - or at any rate nearly all - is forgiven." The fact that it has taken the chancelleries of Europe more than two years to set up this cry, in spite of the utter misery and dejection with which they contemplate the attitudes and accomplishments of Mr Reagan, may be considered some kind of measure of their disenchantment with the Carter regime at the end of its term. Nevertheless I have noticed a distinct softening of attitudes to the Carter record in recent months, and now along comes Carter's National Security Adviser, Zbigniew Brzezinski, to give another boost to the rehabilitation with his own account of what happened on the American foreign policy between 1976 and 1980.

It is an unusually fair and honest book, one of the best of its kind to be published in recent years, and it makes a good case for Carter. The prize exhibits are naturally the Camp David agreements, the Panama Canal treaties, the final normalization of relations with China and the SALT II treaty which, though never ratified, has at least been observed by both sides.

Brzezinski also claims credit for some developments which will be less universally acclaimed but which can at least be said to meet the Reaganite charge that Carter was "soft on Communism" - economic sanctions against the Soviet Union after Afghanistan, the rejection of the American military presence into the Persian Gulf, the formation of the rapid deployment force and the reinvigoration of NATO.

For liberals he has not so much to show, but he offers Carter's real attempt to get to terms with the Third World and the double-edged claim that after the cynical politics of the Nixon/Kissinger era, Carter reidentified the US with certain basic ideals - justice, equality, majority rule, self-determination and the dignity of the individual.

The personal portrait Brzezinski draws of Carter is also appealing. Inexperienced, certainly, with a streak of naivety. Also a poor public speaker and a mediocre manager, both in terms of American politics and of his own team. But highly intelligent, brave, loyal, a very able negotiator and genuinely high-principled.

What went wrong? Brzezinski doesn't really give us a specific reply - except of course "bad luck" which, brought on the Iranian disaster and the hostages debacle in the last year of the President's term. Reading between the lines of his book, though, it is possible to put together some reasonable answers.

In the first place there was "bad luck" of a more fundamental kind than the fall of the Shah. Carter inherited an American public opinion that was "on the turn" between liberalism and conservatism, between optimism and pessimism, between excessive belief in détente with the Soviet Union and equally excessive rejection of it. After Watergate, the American people wanted idealism, which is why they elected Carter rather than Ford. But after Vietnam national pride was badly bruised and so idealism was required with a more brazen and nationalistic face than would have been necessary in the 1960s.

Carter's style - technocratic and casually, almost diffidently, earnest - was quite unable to mould itself to these contours. His idealism was too

"Power and Principle, to be published by Weidenfeld and Nicolson.

easily caricatured as gullibility and his informality as weakness. But it was not only a matter of style and public relations. It was Carter's misfortune to find himself in an international situation that could hardly have been more unfavourable to his purposes. His instincts were constantly at war with the needs of world politics and often of domestic politics also.

Take human rights, for instance - one of the main planks of his platform. He rapidly found that in promoting this concept he not only wrecked his relationship with the Russians, thus undermining the SALT process, but also upset a number of the Third World countries he was hoping to influence.

He was never able to evolve a satisfactory solution to the central problem of the Soviet Union. Should he regard Soviet behaviour in Africa or Central America as a bar to progress on disarmament? Should he play the "China card" and risk a worsening of East-West relations?

He vacillated, and indeed institutionalized this confusion, in his foreign policy appointments. His heart, represented by his Secretary of State, Cyrus Vance, said "Push ahead with détente"; his head, represented by Brzezinski, said "Détente is all very well, but you must link Soviet behaviour in general with specific negotiations; and even if you don't, the American public and Congress will". It is impossible to read all this without a feeling of deep depression for it confirms all the worst fears about the inability of the American system to cope with the problems of world leadership. The weakness of the American cabinet in relation to the presidency, the power of Congress, the multiplicity and force of special interest groups, such as the Zionist lobby, the volatility of much of middle America over foreign policy issues - all this puts burdens on the President which require super-human powers to bear.

Yet the electoral system and the power of the media ensure that presidential candidates under modern conditions are not necessarily chosen for their potential skill in managing the incredible complexities of the international world, far less imposing a coherent pattern on American foreign policy. Carter aspired to be a cross between Nixon and Kennedy, but he had neither Nixon's knowledge nor Kennedy's charisma.

Brzezinski himself believes that the only way to restore consistency and moderation is (a) to reorganize the institutions so that the National Security Adviser has a definite coordinating role in foreign policy on the same lines as the Director of the Budget and (b) to revive the post-war notion of a bipartisan American foreign policy. But the first of these could have no more than marginal effects and the second, though infinitely desirable, would entail the abandonment of the right-wing ideology that is President Reagan's dominant political asset.

The answer must be good, moderate leadership. But where is it to come from? Brzezinski remarked in conversation recently that the National Security Adviser has a definite coordinating role in foreign policy on the same lines as the Director of the Budget and (b) to revive the post-war notion of a bipartisan American foreign policy. But the first of these could have no more than marginal effects and the second, though infinitely desirable, would entail the abandonment of the right-wing ideology that is President Reagan's dominant political asset.

The answer must be good, moderate leadership. But where is it to come from? Brzezinski remarked in conversation recently that the National Security Adviser has a definite coordinating role in foreign policy on the same lines as the Director of the Budget and (b) to revive the post-war notion of a bipartisan American foreign policy. But the first of these could have no more than marginal effects and the second, though infinitely desirable, would entail the abandonment of the right-wing ideology that is President Reagan's dominant political asset.

Philip Howard

Pardon, Noah, your ship is slowing

I'll say this for *Reader's Digest*: it pays its backs well. An article for the *Digest* will keep the penurious freelance scribbler in brown bread and carbon paper for longer than one for most other publications. Even when it reprints some *bon mot* or other extract as one of those whimsical little footnotes at the bottom of the page, it pays both author and original publisher handsomely.

That apart, predigesting and shortening books for those who cannot be bothered to read a whole book has always seemed to me a philistine thing to do. This may be an intolerably elitist view; but a book is a book; some books are the finest products of the best minds of their generations; there are enough of such books to keep one reading; and one should pay a book and its author the respect of reading it whole words rather than a subbed-down version.

Undeterred by elitist disapproval, *Reader's Digest* is going ahead with the big one. This autumn it is bringing us an improved and abridged version of the Bible. But the beginning was the Word. In the Word was too damned long, and too difficult, and busy people, with important things to do could not be expected to plough through all those *longwinded* about who begat whom, and Joshua the son of Nun, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, who were, if you remember, the only two who ever got through to the Land of Milk and Honey.

The editors of *Reader's Digest* have managed to slim down the Old Testament by half, and the New Testament by a quarter, so that, according to the puff, "now you can read the Bible cover to cover." Like a thriller rather than a Testament. Jesus's own words have been reduced by about 10 per cent to eliminate repetitions; and when God becomes a hit prolix and boring in the Old Testament, the editors have just cut him off. Pope Gregory the Great said that the Bible is a stream wherein the elephant may swim and the lamb may wade. *Reader's Digest*

has dammed it and turned it into a paddling-pool where donkeys may take a dip.

After all those animal metaphors, here is an example of the condensation from God's instructions to Noah about how to preserve the animals from the flood. In King James's version, he says: "Make thee an ark of gopher wood; rooms shalt thou make in the ark, and shalt pitch it within and without with pitch. And this is the fashion which thou shalt make it of: The length of the ark shall be three hundred cubits, the breadth of it fifty cubits, and the height of it thirty cubits. . . . And take thou unto thee of all food that is eaten, and thou shalt gather it to thee; and it shall be for food for thee, and for them."

This is the *Digest's* version: "You are to make an ark of gopher wood and cover it with pitch. Make it four hundred and fifty feet long, seventy-five feet wide, and forty-five feet high. . . . Also take with you every sort of food, and store it up for you and them." It may not have the antique grandeur of King James's, which was drummed into the memories and the intellectual backlogs of all children at school and on Sundays until recently. But it is certainly clearer and shorter.

I just hope that those who they are doing. Authors are notoriously touchy about having their pieces cut, so we see every day in the word-factory.

Who was it who said that it seemed odd, not so much that when God decided to write a book, he should write it in Greek; but that he should write the New Testament in such bad Greek? The Great Editor in the Sky left a stern warning in the *Book of Job* that would-be sub-editors in *The Creation of St John the Divine* 22. 15: "If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book. And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book."

Handwritten scribble at the bottom of the page.



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

TOWARDS STABILITY

Yesterday's cuts in the major banks' base interest rates were hardly dramatic. The fall was only half a point and had been predicted for some time.

Lower oil prices were bound to lead to a relative fall in sterling, because they are more beneficial to the other major oil-importing industrial countries.

Lord Richardson, retiring governor of the Bank of England, and his American opposite number Mr Paul Volcker have both made it clear that they want to see interest rates much lower worldwide to encourage economic recovery and to help resolve the debt problems of newer industrial nations.

Now that so much progress has been made on inflation, governments can pay more attention to these other variables, which are just as vital to the economy.

Deficit may be higher than intended, do not yet leave much room for manoeuvre.

There is some historical evidence that interest rates reflect past inflation for long periods rather than any deeply perceptive forecasts for the future.

The sec-sawing currency markets also exert a malevolent influence. Although bank-fuelled speculation which shifted from the European currencies to the pound has temporarily abated, it would be foolish to think that speculators will not soon settle on a new target.

This can only change if governments consciously aim at greater stability as a goal in its own right, vital to trade and to business decisions.

Lord Richardson, retiring governor of the Bank of England, and his American opposite number Mr Paul Volcker have both made it clear that they want to see interest rates much lower worldwide to encourage economic recovery and to help resolve the debt problems of newer industrial nations.

having exchange and interest rate targets would have implied abandoning a monetary policy. But there is some sense in the committee's charge. It is possible to aim at the most stable combination of the three, at the cost of some compromise on the purity of any one policy target.

Greater stability in financial markets now offers better hopes for big-cuts in interest rates than sound money on its own.

The Williamsburg summit next month is now concentrating people's minds internationally on ways they can cooperate more effectively. Lord Richardson has said more clearly than ever that exchange rate stability should be an important world policy objective.

World anyone wish it to be otherwise? The authors of the past dealt with abortion at common law in terms of the medical knowledge of their day. Thus Bracton deemed abortion to be homicide and said that such homicide was committed when the foetus was animatum (alive).

Labour's policy for pensioners

From Mr Brynmor John, MP for Pontypridd (Labour) and Mr Peter Shore, MP for Tower Hamlets, Stepney and Poplar (Labour) Sir, Your Political Correspondent, Anthony Bevin, simply got it wrong when he wrote last Wednesday (feature, April 6) about Labour's policy for pensioners.

Post-coital pill

From Mr Gerard Wright, QC Sir, Mr Ian Kennedy asserts (April 11) that the law on abortion concerns itself with pregnancy and procuring a miscarriage. This is not so. It is quite true that the Offences against the Person Act 1861 strikes at acts done "without intent to procure, the miscarriage of any woman"; but the underlying policy of our law, both in that Act and in the common law from time immemorial, is the protection of human life.

Politics and voluntary bodies

From the Chairman of the National Council for Voluntary Organisations Sir, The Dr Vaughan "affair" has potentially raised a number of crucial questions about the relations between Government and independent bodies in receipt of Exchequer financial support and about the proper balance between independence and accountability.

For many years voluntary organisations have received grants from public funds. Such funding has increased very considerably over the past decade, and today many of our social and other welfare services depend on the contributions of voluntary organisations working in partnership with local authorities and government.

While those who work with the elderly or handicapped, with children in trouble or ex-offenders, with the mentally ill or chronically sick and those assisting the poor or unemployed or seeking to improve our environment have a primary interest in providing services, they may also seek to improve conditions or address the causes of problems.

Successive ministers and civil servants have benefited from the advice given by voluntary organisations. It would be a sad loss to the country of social policy and to the processes of government if voluntary organisations in receipt of public funds were forbidden from expressing their views on policy and administration as it affects their proper aims.

Political subsuio by government paymasters would be as dangerous and improper in this context as in the other areas of our free society where the principle of the "arm's length grant" (support without control) rather than subject to scrutiny of propriety and efficiency) has long been recognized.

There remains lamentable confusion about what is and what is not "political" activity. Case law suggests that some aims are classed as political whereas others are not, even though both seek to influence public policy, legislation, etc.

It would be more in accordance with the principle that law should be clear, ascertainable and predictable if a simpler, more objective test were adopted, namely - that politics is essentially about the retention and transference of government power and that, in a democratic society and in the present context, "political" activity consisted only of activity whose aims include, overtly or covertly, the influencing of the electoral process in favour of (or against) any person or party.

Housing Bill

From the Chairman of the Consumers' Association Sir, The Housing and Building Control Bill, which is now on its way through Parliament, creates a right which enables the Secretary of State to pass on, to bodies which are not answerable to Parliament, his statutory power to give practical guidance on the general safety requirements of the building regulations.

The bodies which could be given the power under the Bill to approve the guidance documents are likely to be private organisations and may in their turn approve a document issued by a third organisation. In addition, if a particular document proved in use to be unacceptable there is no procedure in the Bill for forcing its withdrawal.

Furthermore, the Bill gives the documents containing the guidance legal status. In a prosecution for a breach of the regulations, or in an action for negligence, a failure to have complied with a document will tend to establish liability, while compliance will tend to negate liability.

It is true that British Standards, for example, have been used to indicate ways in which a builder or producer may comply with the building regulations, but final approval of the use of the standard for this purpose has remained with the Secretary of State and the relevant standards have been incorporated in a formal statutory instrument.

In addition, there have been consultations with all interested parties including consumer representatives. Maybe the new-style "approved documents" do not need to be laid before Parliament, but they ought to gain their status by being directly approved by the Secretary of State who is responsible

Health service distortions

From Professor John A. Davis and others Sir, There has been much rejoicing in the press over the Government's decision to keep open the Tadworth branch of the Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children with the help of charitable moneys.

Contributing to debates on public policy and administration would not, as such, constitute "political" activity in this context. If it did, every body that ever sought to influence government and Parliament, including many highly respected and worthy charities, would be caught.

If they are excluded, then the line can only be drawn either "subjectively" according to how controversial the influence is or "objectively" in relation to the electoral process itself. Objectivity is better.

I believe that the recognition of these principles would both uphold the proper freedom and independence of voluntary bodies (and others receiving "arm's length" government support), satisfy Parliament as to the proper and efficient use of the taxpayers' money, reinforce desirable partnership between central and local government and voluntary bodies and correct the present unsatisfactory confusion - and resulting suspicion - over the definition of "political" activity.

Our free and plural society would be healthier for thus dissipating the shadow of "Big Brother", while leaving the electoral process as the proper domain of the parties and the politicians.

Yours etc, PETER JAY, Chairman, National Council for Voluntary Organisations, 26 Bedford Square, WCI, April 14.

From Mrs Margaret P. Kerry Sir, I was very pleased to read your report of, and leader on (April 12) the attack on citizens' advice bureaux by Dr Gerald Vaughan.

As one of many volunteer workers, I am training to be of use in a local CAB. I have been impressed by the thoroughness of the training, the devotion of the mainly unpaid workers and the high principles behind the organization.

Even more impressive has been the gratitude expressed to me by clients who have come to rely on the bureau for confidential and impartial help.

It is obvious from our day book that our clients are from many walks of life and their problems are as diverse as their backgrounds. One is proud to be part of this most helpful, and, in our increasingly bureaucratic system, essential organization.

Yours faithfully, MARGARET P. KERRY, 318 Ashgate Road, Chesterfield, Derbyshire.

to Parliament. He should assure himself that there has been adequate consultation with all interested parties.

If the Bill is not amended, the power of the Secretary of State's representatives - his officials - to influence decisions will be reduced and the way will be open for special, including private, interests to define criteria of public interest behind closed doors.

Of course, the British Standards Institution has its own procedures for public consultation; but other bodies may not have such a procedure. When the consultation is finished, a decision has to be taken on the public interest, particularly when there is disagreement on acceptable levels of safety. The decision should be taken by the Secretary of State.

We do not believe that the constitutional implications have been widely understood and discussed and the precedent the Bill could establish could have serious implications for safety legislation.

Yours faithfully, RACHEL WATERHOUSE, Chairman, Consumers' Association, 14 Buckingham Street, WC2.

Buying British

From Major E. D. Stroud Sir, Dishwashers, too, it seems are no longer made in Britain. Wishing to replace our aged Colston, my wife wrote to the Electricity Council enquiring about a British-made model. The Electricity Council replied: "We do not know of any dishwashers that are British-made" and recommended a foreign model.

Yours faithfully, E. D. STROUD, Lantern Cottage, 35 Upper Street, West Ham, London, E16 1RN.

Stamp of neglect

From Sir John Biggs-Davison, MP for Epping Forest (Conservative) Sir, I read in your columns today (April 12) that the festival, "Britain salutes New York", is to be held on the anniversary of the treaty severing the Americans, against the wishes of very many of them, from the British Crown.

Likewise, our Post Office celebrated the bicentennial of the revolutionary republic with a special postal issue. It rejected my request for a special issue to honour the United Empire Loyalists who, 200 years ago, endured suffering and loss in moving to Canada or the Caribbean so as to stay beneath the British Crown and flag. It was my hope, and that of today's United Empire Loyalists, that a special stamp should be issued in Canada, too.

This putting of those who have been against us before those who have been for us is of a piece with the dissuasion of Sir Jobo A. Macdoald from naming the dominion the Kingdom of Canada - lest Washington be offended. We should show a little loyalty and gratitude and stop crawling.

I remain, Sir, Your most obedient servant, JOHN BIGGS-DAVISON, House of Commons, April 12.

Yours faithfully, JOHN A. DAVIS, N. R. C. ROBERTSON, N. D. BARNES, University of Cambridge Clinical School, Department of Paediatrics, Level 8, Addenbrooke's Hospital, Hills Road, Cambridge.

Public records

From Mr Anthony J. Camp Sir, The "entire answer" to Mrs Elizabeth Stazieler (April 11) is for Lord Teviot's Bill to be amended to enable the copies of the 100-year-old records, presently in the hands of the local superintendent registrars, to be passed to the county record offices.

It is an absurd omission: it would save the cost of purchasing microfilms and reduce by half the congestion in any central repository.

Yours faithfully, ANTHONY J. CAMP, Director, Society of Genealogists, 37 Harrington Gardens, SW7, April 11.

Elgin Marbles

From Mr B. F. Cook Sir, With reference to the letter you published on April 2 from Dr Mainstone, your readers may care to know that the British Museum has for some time been discussing this very matter with the official Greek Committee for the Preservation of the Acropolis Monuments. This followed their request for replicas to be made of several architectural members, including those mentioned, in connection with the restoration of the Erechtheion.

Yours faithfully, B. F. COOK, Keeper, Department of Greek and Roman Antiquities, The British Museum, WCI, April 11.

Stumped on the crease

From Mr Clive Farley Sir, Clive Colvin's criticism, in her review of Charles's Aunt (April 7), that "surely an old soldier like Colonel Sir Francis Chesney would not wear a pair of flannels without a sharply ironed crease" is unjustified.

For formal wear in 1892 trousers would have remained uncreased. Creases did not appear in trousers until the late twenties with the advent of trouser-presses, and only into cramo currency in the Edwardian era.

Yours faithfully, CLIVE FARLEY, 19 Florence Road, Bournemouth, Dorset, April 8.

UNIFORM OPPORTUNITIES

A generation has passed since the cold winter of 1960 when the last conscript was inducted into the Army. For today's adolescents, National Service is a folk memory, barely remembered even by their parents.

Khaki has been replaced by drab greens and the functional outfits of modern fighting men; the nation has relapsed into the ways of its history, holding the armed forces in regard, to be sure, but as a thing apart, a caste. Few homes now have direct contact with the forces by blood; our sympathies and common feelings are relayed and sometimes trivialized by radio, television and newspaper reports. So must it be with the professionalization of the military. Yet the new youth training scheme may be a small antidote now that it has been extended to the armed forces.

In small measure the annual flow of volunteers on twelve-month training placements might replace ignorance and synthetic knowledge with direct perception of the strengths and weaknesses of a peace-time fighting machine. The individuals training with the forces, young men and women, will surely benefit in a personal sense; but beyond that there may feed out into wider society an appreciation of the work of the armed forces at a level deeper than the celebratory, even adulatory, attitude produced by victory in the Falklands War.

Navy and Air Force in providing training and work experience for the young unemployed is practical common sense. It is fitting that the announcement of the scheme fell to Mr Michael Heseltine, whose approval of a £1 million subsidy from his own department's funds is a generous gesture. Those close to the minister will remember that among his most enduring impressions from Merseyside in the weeks after Toxteth was not the physical destruction but the pointlessness and emptiness - pointed out to his wife in crude language on more than one occasion - of some of the Manpower Services Commission's schemes for the young jobless. Their limitations are not wholly the fault of the MSC which depends on employers for work experience. It has taken the country's biggest employer - the Government - far too long to realize that within the canyons of the bureaucracy, in the dockyards and in the museums there are many opportunities for practical experience.

The services offer some of the best opportunities. Within the armed forces there exists a magnificent machine for training raw youth. Without undue deviation from its essential purposes that machine can find room for driving instruction, electronics work, maintenance skills - as well as weapons training. The National Service generation is sometimes over fond of emphasizing the "character-building" aspects of its experience which at the time appeared to be exactly the opposite. But the forces have changed. Modern armies fight psych-war within as well as without and Mr Heseltine's provision for a 14-day period of "notice" seems sensible and fair. There are at present some seven applicants for each Army vacancy; the 5,200 places on the new scheme are likely to be oversubscribed.

Politicians' talk of the scheme's anticipating compulsory enlistment of the young unemployed is nonsense. Other objectors - within the military - should pause, too. There will of course be hesitation over budgets raided and the loss of elasticity that might occur when seasoned trainers are redeployed on the difficult task of knocking inner-city adolescents into shape in a short space of time. But in the medium run there is a bonus. Britain's reserves are limited. Without conscription the forces' back-up is considerably less than in other Nato countries. Young men and women with twelve months military training and discipline under their belts will not immediately convert into soldiers or sailors in some future emergency, but they would provide a cadre of half-trained manpower. If during their stints they have acquired a habit of self-reliance and a willingness to respond to a national call to arms then they could form the basis of a reserve force in depth.

ter-building" aspects of its experience which at the time appeared to be exactly the opposite. But the forces have changed. Modern armies fight psych-war within as well as without and Mr Heseltine's provision for a 14-day period of "notice" seems sensible and fair. There are at present some seven applicants for each Army vacancy; the 5,200 places on the new scheme are likely to be oversubscribed.

Politicians' talk of the scheme's anticipating compulsory enlistment of the young unemployed is nonsense. Other objectors - within the military - should pause, too. There will of course be hesitation over budgets raided and the loss of elasticity that might occur when seasoned trainers are redeployed on the difficult task of knocking inner-city adolescents into shape in a short space of time. But in the medium run there is a bonus.

Britain's reserves are limited. Without conscription the forces' back-up is considerably less than in other Nato countries. Young men and women with twelve months military training and discipline under their belts will not immediately convert into soldiers or sailors in some future emergency, but they would provide a cadre of half-trained manpower. If during their stints they have acquired a habit of self-reliance and a willingness to respond to a national call to arms then they could form the basis of a reserve force in depth.

Donnish dalliance

From Mr C. R. K. Perkins Sir, I find it strange that Richard Holmes, commenting (feature, April 2) on John Donne's Good Friday poem, should say: "It is difficult to imagine him stopping his horse to study the primroses in the Welsh woodlands."

He must know that at Montgomery Castle, his destination in April, 1613, Donne did, in fact, write another poem based on his close observation of a field of primroses, "where their form, and their infinity, make a terrestrial galaxy."

True, he characteristically takes the flower in its various forms as representative of woman and not as an emblem of springtime renewal; but to suggest that he was by nature indifferent to nature is less than fair.

Yours faithfully, C. R. K. PERKINS, 47 Moorland Park Road, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, April 7.

Desirable residence

From Sir Donald Tebbitt Sir, It is disappointing that your untamed Foreign Staff's article on diplomatic housing ("The Empire strikes back for the good life", April 6) should have been tailored for the gallery in the usual superficial way. The choice is not a simple one

between selling diplomatic palaces and making huge savings, on the one hand, and maintaining personal luxury at high cost, on the other. Many prestigious British diplomatic residences were acquired cheaply, either through timely purchase or through good will and generosity, sometimes outright gift, on the part of overseas governments. It is quite unrealistic to suppose that properties which were given to Britain, or put into British hands on favoured terms, would be permitted to be flogged for a fortune on the open market. In many cases they could in practice only be disposed of by returning them to local governments.

The British taxpayer would then have to cough up large sums to build inferior substitutes in the outer suburbs. The loss would not be in face and diplomatic effectiveness alone but in hard cash.

Your diplomatic staff's idea of the constraints of what they call "the good life" is equally strange. Most diplomats join the career because of the interest of the work itself and in the hope of rendering patriotic service. Those who think it a luxury for a diplomat and his wife to run a small four-star hotel in their spare time without the incentive of the profit motive should try it for themselves.

Yours sincerely, DONALD TEBBITT, 35 Buckingham Gate, SW1, April 7.

Nostell Priory painting

From Mr Eric Lyall Sir, Some of your readers may have assumed that Mr Barlow's letter (April 9) was intended for publication on April 1. Bearing in mind the possibility that this is not so some answer may be desirable.

Robus-makers cheerfully made (and make) far worse puns than those suggested by Mr Leslie (Spectrum, March 25). Jonché - stream flowers, etc - would, to a robust-maker, be sufficiently near to Jean caché. Faire tapisserie has come to mean "to be a wall-flower" though it has retained its earlier meaning of "to line the walls". Tapisserie also can mean a carpet.

May I take up a point that Professor Moule passed by? "The record of organized Christendom", you argued, "entitles no Christian to presume that his church is any more complete in its spirituality than the rabbinical approach theoretically left behind, in the wrong, twenty centuries ago". The years of diaspora have brought the Jews much persecution, but also a freedom from the responsibility for the exercise of political power. Will Isaac prove truer to Judaism than "organized Christendom" has been to the teaching of Christ?

There is a glaring paradox in Israel today that prompts the question. Nowhere in the world is greater effort made than in Israel to

Christians and Jews

From Mr Noel Hughes Sir, In his perceptive comment on your leader, "Jesus was a Jew" (April 2) Professor Moule pointed out (April 7) that it was under the swastika, rather than the Cross, that the Jews suffered their holocaust. Perhaps he might agree that, today, it is the hammer and sickle rather than the Cross that bears most hard.

Yours sincerely, MARGARET WHITE, 196 Lower Addiscombe Road, Croydon, Surrey, April 11.

keep fresh the memory of the holocaust experience; and I can understand why that should be so. Nowhere is the doctrine of Herren-volk preached with such disgusting and authentic clarity as it is in Israel by Rabbi Kahane; and I cannot understand why that should be so.

Yours faithfully, NOEL HUGHES, 16 Mount Ararat Road, Richmond, Surrey, April 11.

From Mr Ivan Jellinek

Sir, I would like to point out that the opinions, expressed in your leading article, "Jesus was a Jew" (April 2), are heretical from the Christian point of view. The perfect unity of God incarnate cannot be split into God and man.

Man can be English or Russian, or, in the somewhat racial view of the author of your leading article, Caucasian, Semitic, etc. The human nature of Jesus Christ cannot be isolated from his divine nature and cannot be qualified as of one nation or race.

God chose a particular time, place, and circumstances to enact

the drama of his life on earth as Jesus. He did not forget the prophets through whose mouth he spoke; those who would have killed him as a new-born baby; those who would listen to him entranced and obey him but soon afterwards would call for his blood; the man who betrayed him; the man who executed him.

God chose a particular time, place and circumstances yet was not their product in the person of Jesus Christ. This is the reason why - contrary to your leading article - Jesus could not be considered as "the massive gift with which Jewry has endowed the Christian world".

As far as antisemitism is concerned, sufficient grounds for rejecting it lie in the rejection of any sort of ignorance which disregards Jesus's command to love one's neighbour. Negative feelings towards certain actions of the state of Israel do not represent antisemitism but anti-Israemism, a parallel which can be found in anti-Americanism.

Yours faithfully, IVAN JELINEK, 6 Gordon Avenue, East Sheen, SW14.

WALES

Demands for devolution no longer divide the nation. The overwhelming problem is unemployment and united efforts are being made to attract new industries and holiday visitors while retaining Welsh traditions

Politicians, praise be, are not infallible. If they were then the social order in Wales today would have disintegrated before an unremitting wave of unemployment. Anarchy would stalk the land and despair be turned into rebellion. This was the scenario painted three years ago by a parliamentary select committee primed by warnings that by this time 140,000 people could be on the dole in the principality.

Sadly, that figure has been passed and now 17.3 per cent or 178,077 people are unemployed, but the Welsh have emerged stoically from the storm of savage de-industrialization to confound the pessimists.

From Shotton in the North to Port Talbot in the South, British Steel has shed jobs like leaves in an autumn storm and those communities have paid the price for relying too heavily in the past on one major employer.

It is a picture repeated in the South Wales valleys, where the reign of king coal has diminished until there are now only 33 pits remaining in the area. After July only one pit will remain in the Rhondda valley whose seams fuelled the warships of the Empire.

The story, unfortunately, is not confined to the old traditional industries which have now been slumped down in the face of the recession.

The towns of Milford Haven and Pembroke Dock in Dyfed are ringed by oil refineries but the hopes of unending prosperity on the back of black gold have been dashed against an unemployment rate of 30 per cent. And in Gwynedd, stronghold of the Welsh language and traditions, jobs have disappeared as the hugely impressive

Dinorwic hydro-electric power scheme nears completion.

But not all is doom in the Celtic kingdom, for the Welsh, geographically on the wrong edge of Europe, are fighting back. Government-funded agencies such as the Development Corporation for Wales and Mid Wales Development, known until recently as the Development Board for Rural Wales, have been working unremittingly to attract and develop jobs in the country.

Last month in a stroke, worthy of the best of Madison Avenue, Mid Wales Development hijacked the legendary Orient Express and took it from King's Cross to the Harrogate Fashion Fair to convince the moguls of high fashion that the designers of the area have long since shed their "tawdry tapestry" image. Mythology dies hard but the populist image of a strike-happy workforce is no longer deserved. Even the miners, traditionally regarded as the backbone of Welsh working class militancy, could decide only by half of 1 per cent to strike over a threatened pit and that action petered out through lack of support from the other British coalfields.

Superficially, Wales appears to be just another integrated region of Britain and many a retired couple from England live out their lives in Cotswold Bay of Prestatyn without ever understanding the nature or the culture of their adopted land. They never see that away from the coastal caravan and candy floss plain, just a few miles into the hills, the rural Welsh live a different life shrouded in the secrecy of an old culture and language.

The language, spoken by some 500,000 people, is at its eleventh hour. It has withstood



Rhymney Valley, Gwent: the old industries have had their day, but new ones take their place

repression, discriminatory acts of Parliament and vilification from within to persist against the odds. But the greatest challenge has come from the ease with which Anglo-American pop culture is beamed into the home. Chapels have become bingo halls and the faithful of the Welsh non-conformist tradition are now mostly elderly.

Just when it appeared that the language was to be engulfed the Welsh speakers mounted a tremendous rearguard action and now the language enjoys a status that minorities in other countries, such as Bretons, can only envy.

While clinging stubbornly to cultural differences, politically the Welsh are firmly entrenched in the mainstream of British politics. Although urged to do so by everyone with the exception of the Conservative Party, the nation resoundingly rejected the opportunity of having its own devolved assembly. The result was a body blow to Plaid Cymru, the Welsh Nationalist Party, who manage

to return only two highly able members to Parliament.

Partly to meet this challenge the nationalists, decided to campaign from a socialist platform but its first test under this banner did not improve its fortunes when its candidate was badly beaten at the Gower by-election.

More recently its campaign urging people to withhold payment of water rates because they pay more than consumers in England has received broader support and the issue is now to be tested in the High Court.

But it appears likely that the party will continue to remain as no more than a peripheral threat to the big bastion who at the next election will be contesting 38 seats, two more than last time.

In spite of the furious ideological battles that have beset the party in England, the Labour Party in Wales continues to project a caring, almost old-fashioned image and at the next election it will be hoping that this solid front can

help it to regain the losses it suffered last time.

The Liberal-SDP Alliance, which came second in Gower, will point to the legacy left by successive local Labour administrations when it takes to the hustings.

For the once mighty industrial valleys, where huge personal fortunes were made out of iron and coal, have some of the worst housing in Britain. Within sight of these mean, sub-standard homes, the opulent palaces of the masters still stand as a monument to incredible insensitivity. According to some estimates 40 out of every 100 homes in the valleys are unfit to live in, making a total of 15.4 per cent of Welsh homes sub-standard, compared with a figure of 9.6 in England. But the little two-up, two-down houses are the legacy of every government. It is just cruel that in a more enlightened age the wealth which caused them to be built so hastily has dissipated in the face of the world recession.

There are problems too in education where a worrying 25

per cent of Welsh schoolchildren leave after 11 years of full time education without a single piece of paper to take to a prospective employer. Alarmingly, in some industrial areas of the south where the old miners' libraries no longer function, this figure climbs to above 30 per cent.

Superficially, these factors might deter potential industrialists, but those who have made their home in Wales are generally delighted by the willingness and adaptability of the workforce. And communications are generally much better than is supposed for most companies.

In the South most concerns are within easy reach of the M4 motorway, while in the North the A55 is being developed into a high density artery. Communications between North and South Wales remain unimpressive but then most traffic flows eastwards into England.

In the vast, pleasant and underpopulated tract of the central region, Mid Wales

Development has pioneered small factories providing 6,000 job opportunities and is continuing to attract industry in spite of a seemingly strange decision by the Government to abolish assisted area status for the greater part of its area. The agency backs up its work by an effective social development programme which has improved the quality of life in a host of ways ranging from assistance with the building of new community halls to the grant aid for improved television reception.

Inexorably entwined with its great neighbour, the Welsh steadfastly refuse to be completely assimilated. The Welsh are stereotyped by rugby and song, but find nothing amusing or derogatory in these associations. The love of both are deeply ingrained into the character. The similarities with their English friends abound, but under the surface the differences are as immovable as the mighty castles built to subdue them.

Tim Jones
Welsh Correspondent

ECONOMY Ready for the upturn

Wales, battered disproportionately by the economic gales which stripped the country of jobs after the boom years of the Sixties, is emerging bruised but fitter to take advantage of the industrial upturn forecast by the CBI.

The recession had a dramatic effect on the Principality, and in the steel towns of Shotton, Port Talbot and Newport the consequences were particularly shattering. More than most, those communities suffered from having their industrial eggs in one basket and as the steel plants shrank in capacity, jobs were lost in supply industries.

In the nine years to 1982, Wales lost 38,000 jobs in steel, and Mr Ian MacGregor, previously head of British Steel and now appointed chairman of the National Coal Board, recently told the Parliamentary Select Committee on Welsh Affairs that more redundancies could be on the way.

Abortive industrial action, coupled with threats of mobilizing the trade union triple alliance of steel, coal and rail, failed to halt the cuts and left the bitter accusation that Wales had been treated more harshly than the rest of Britain.

Although the human cost has been high, with Wales now suffering from an unprecedented unemployment rate of 18.000, the strategy seems to have been vindicated in strict business terms.

For since the cuts in jobs, particularly in the last few years, productivity at the steel plant has increased dramatically. Llanwern, for instance, has recently broken through the four man-hours per tonne barrier, bringing it to 3.8 hours, and the plant has been breaking output records.

There remains, however, the possibility that long-term prospects for steel sales are gloomy. Some claim that the present slight upturn is merely a temporary quirk caused by companies trying to beat price increases or building up stocks slightly after a long period of run-down.

Largely because of the political muscle of the miners, the coal industry has thus far escaped the kind of slimming operation to which steel has been subjected.

However, the failure, bitterly resented, of other coalfields to back them over their abortive fight to save the Tynafn-Lewis Merthyr colliery, coupled with

continued on next page

INDUSTRY

Aid package brings in new firms

The way Wales goes about attracting new industries is getting a big facelift. One change has been the formation of WINVEST - Wales Investment Location - to take over from the 25-year-old Development Corporation for Wales.

This new organization has a core of Development Corporation experts who have been in the forefront of bringing foreign companies to Wales, but it has more muscle. It has been given responsibility for the allocation of advance factories and the availability of selective government cash aid to industry.

Previously, factory allocations had to be referred to the Welsh Development Agency (WDA) and financial assistance to the Welsh Office Industry Department.

Mr Nicholas Edwards, Secretary of State for Wales, in announcing that WINVEST would start on April 1, said: "The aim is to provide a one-stop shop for the prospective overseas investor and a sharper focus for our inward investment effort."

Throughout the recession Wales has maintained a good

track record in attracting new companies although the scale of job creation has been swamped by redundancies in older industries such as steel.

The successes continue. A Finnish company has recently announced it is building a pulp and newsprint mill on Decidde, employing 270 people, and more than 1,000 jobs are expected to be created in back-up industries such as timber and haulage.

At Bridgend, in South Wales, the American-owned Align-Rite Corporation is the latest high-technology company to select Wales. It will be the first on a new industrial park being developed by Mid Glamorgan County Council, and will make photomasks - a product used in manufacturing microchips.

Mid Wales Development, the promotional name adopted by the Development Board for Rural Wales, attracts a steady stream of new businesses to its advance factories. Recently these have included a computer company at Aberystwyth, an engineering company at Towyn and the expansion of a golf

continued on next page

WORKING HAND-IN-HAND

At Matsushita Electric, we work hand in hand with over 36,000 people from all around the world.

We like to think that everywhere Matsushita products are made, a spirit of harmony and co-operation guides our efforts.

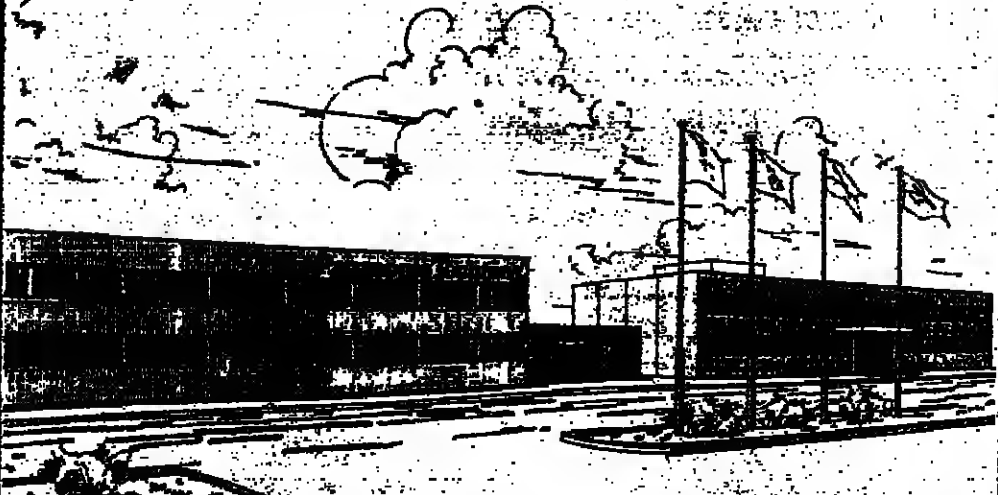
In 1976, we set up our first major European manufacturing operation for colour televisions, in Cardiff.

Virtually the entire workforce is British and about 65% of the TV components come from UK or EEC suppliers.

Over the past seven years, the product range has been considerably expanded. And so has our investment and export to Western Europe and other countries.

We also have major manufacturing operations in Spain and Belgium, and in West Germany we've recently established a joint venture with a leading electronics company.

Thanks to the talent and dedication of our international workforce, all the products bearing our name, no matter where they are made, reflect a consistent and uncompromising standard of quality and reliability.



Matsushita Electric
Panasonic-National-Technics

From Kronospan's Clwyd factory comes almost a third of the country's chipboard.



Added to the production from our Austrian, German and Swiss factories it makes us one of the largest producers of chipboard in Europe. Ideally situated for supplying the UK building, furniture and DIY trade, Kronospan should be your preferred supplier for decorative melamine, melamine faced panels and work tops, flooring grade and moisture resistant chipboards. Write or phone for information to:

Kronospan Ltd., Chirk, Wrexham LL14 5NT
Tel: Chirk (0691) 773361 Telex: 35363

HOOVER

The stamp of quality



We have been making washing machines at our Merthyr factory in Wales for 35 years. And right from day one quality was the key to our success.

Not just the finest materials, but the finest workforce. Skilled in the latest production techniques, and

dedicated to matching and surpassing the best Europe can throw at us.

And today the new Hoover Electron Series are far and away Britain's best selling automatics. In a marketplace where competition has been at its fiercest over the last two years, Wales can be justly proud of this remarkable success story.

So proud in fact, that every machine leaving our Merthyr factory bears the personal stamp of each quality controller who has checked it.

It's this individual commitment that keeps Hoover out in front. Today, and in the future.

Made in Wales



Open the door to more in the Rhymney Valley


and gain the financial incentives to assist your Company's success in a region steeped in skills from Electronics to Engineering and served by the U.K. Motorway Network, close to Rail, Air and Sea Terminals.

- REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT - 15% or 20% Grants on Buildings & Machinery
- SELECTIVE ASSISTANCE FOR NEW PROJECTS
- SPECIAL ASSISTANCE FOR OFFICE & SERVICE INDUSTRIES - up to 50,000 per job created
- REMOVAL EXPENSES FOR EMPLOYEES
- HOUSING FOR KEY WORKERS
- TRAINING COSTS - up to 80% of costs including instructors' wages
- LOW INTEREST LOANS FROM THE E.E.C.

Factory, Office and Storage facilities ranging from 500 sq. ft. to 150,000 sq. ft. situated in a pleasant rural environment are available. Rentals on new property from \$1.20 sq. ft. Older property from 65 sq. ft. More than 1/2 million square footage available.

Rhymney Valley
Alan Bruce, Industrial Development Officer, Rhymney Valley Council, Tel. 10431812241

In a park... by the sea



Swansea University College has one of the most beautiful situations of any British University. On its campus are halls of residence, ample lecture theatre facilities, a central building with dining rooms, refectory, snack bars, bank, post office, etc.

Swansea is on the edge of the picturesque Gower Peninsula with its magnificent coastal scenery, sandy beaches, and historic castles, so that it is a great place not only for conferences but also for holidays. Houses in the university's student village are let to holiday makers during the summer, and they can use the Sports Centre with its heated swimming pool and other facilities.

Communications with other parts of Britain are excellent by Inter-City High Speed trains, coaches and a network of motorways.

For further details, write to the Accommodation Officer, University College of Swansea, Singleton Park Swansea, SA2 8PP. Tel. (0792) 208979 (24 hours).

WALE POLITICS

The voters won't be taken for granted

There are recidivists in politics as there are in crime and, despite the short, sharp shock they were given in the referendum four years ago, some old lags have still not given up the idea of devolution for Wales. They certainly persist within the SDP, and the Labour Party continue to argue the case - in both cases now for the whole of Britain - as a way of ensuring the public accountability of non-elected bodies.

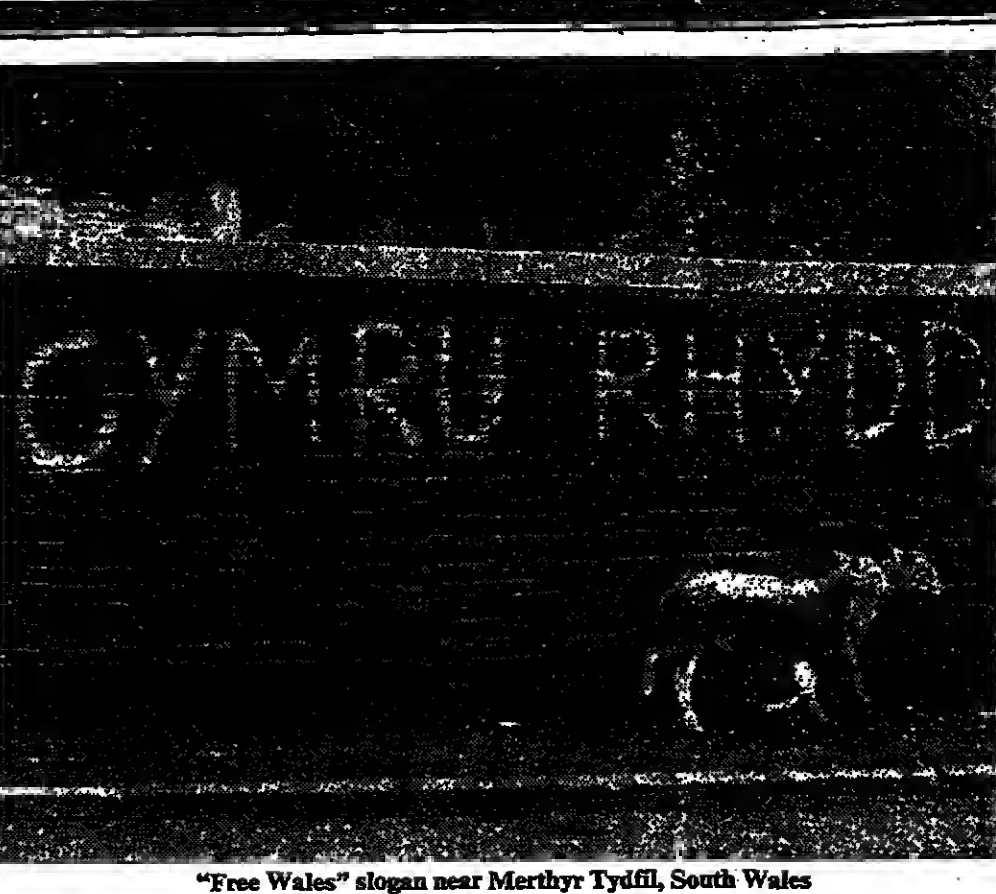
Not surprisingly, the Labour Party in Wales is at best wary about continuing to back an idea which has been emphatically demonstrated to be a loser. But perhaps in Wales people are yearning for a time not so long past when the idea of Welsh politics seemed to be significant in a United Kingdom context.

After all, it was exciting to be at the centre of the political stage; to have a government spending two legislative years trying to establish Welsh and Scottish assemblies. It was certainly exciting for the nationalists as chief whips came calling on their MPs, asking after their health and their voting intentions.

But the election which followed the devolution referendum in 1979 is supposed to have demonstrated that, far from being a special case, politics in Wales were becoming more and more like those in England. That was shown, it was argued, by the fact that support for the Conservatives went up to a remarkable 32.2 per cent, Labour's share of the poll was down at 46.9 per cent and Plaid Cymru managed only just over 8 per cent.

That was perhaps a rather simplistic way of looking at the results, and it is equally possible to argue that politics in Wales have become more, rather than less, distinctive; to say that it was devolution, in fact, which forced the Conservative Party in particular to adopt a much clearer attitude towards Wales.

Whereas the Conservatives had insisted for many years that the future of Wales was inextricably bound up with that of the rest of the United Kingdom, they had when Labour was making the running



on devolution, to define their attitudes to Wales and to assert their own view of it.

It was, after all, a Conservative government which established the Commons Select Committee on Welsh Affairs which, while it was not intended as an answer to the devolution proposals, at least helped to legitimise the idea that there were distinctive Welsh problems which demanded a separate analysis.

And while it opposed the idea of setting up bodies like the Welsh Development Agency, the present Government has in fact been extremely solicitous, since taking office, to see that such organizations actually work.

So Welsh politics exist to some extent because the organizations exist - most notably the Welsh Office, which has been given increased power by each successive government since the first Secretary of State took office less than 20 years ago.

It seems to be institutional momentum as much as deliberate political policy which has brought about more Welsh-based, as distinct from class-based, politics in Wales, but it looks at first glance as though the Conservatives have been the main beneficiaries.

At the 1966 general election, Labour won 32 of the 36 Welsh seats. The Conservatives took three and the Liberals one. By 1979 Labour were hanging on to 21 seats, the Conservatives had 11, Plaid Cymru two and the Liberals one. (The odd one out is Cardiff West, represented by the Speaker, who was once a Labour MP.)

But there is a lot more to Welsh politics than a simple analysis which sees the decline of Labour, the rise of the Conservatives (and, just possibly one day, the SDP) with Plaid Cymru doodling around at somewhere under 10 per cent of the poll and the Liberals, as ever, failing to represent in seats their share of support.

In individual constituencies voters have shown that they are capable of great volatility. A tactical voting was evident in Wales long before it became fashionable in Bermondsey and other places. It is impossible to escape the conclusion that Gwynfor Evans won Carmarthen for Plaid Cymru in 1974 because Conservative and Labour voters wanted Labour to lose. In the same way Labour lost Cardigan to the Liberals because Plaid Cymru and Conservative supporters decided to vote the anti-Labour ticket.

It would, though, be dangerous to underestimate the strength of the Labour Party in Wales, which is essentially cautious, respectable and traditionalist: last year, for instance, its annual conference voted for the expulsion of Militant. The party also retains its overwhelming control of local government in the areas of Wales in which councils are politicized, and its hold on traditional loyalties was demonstrated in the Gower by-election last September.

Labour certainly lost ground with a majority out of 10,000 to 7,000; but the Conservatives fell back too, coming third after competing for votes with the SDP particularly in the middle-class areas of the constituency. But what was most impressive about a rather dull campaign was Labour's ability to retain its solid core of support.

Not many years ago the excitement about that by-election would probably have been created by Plaid Cymru, who mounted some staggering assaults on Labour majorities in the 1960s. But now Plaid Cymru seems rather to have lost its way as it tries to combine issue politics with a traditional party approach.

There is no doubt that it was damaged by the devolution episode; throwing out the idea of an assembly by a huge majority is a pretty dusty answer to a party whose aim is self-government for Wales.

The campaign for a Welsh language television channel backed by a programme of civil disobedience can be counted a success for Plaid Cymru.

But an attempt to create the same kind of pressure over what English authorities pay for Welsh water failed to make the same impact, despite the fact that those with no nationalist sympathies whatsoever are liable to turn purple when they open their bills from the Welsh Water Authority.

The last genuine test of Welsh political attitudes - the Gower by-election - put Plaid Cymru a head fourth. The party desperately needs a much better performance before the next general election and further opportunities are likely to be available soon.

Two of Wales's leading politicians - Michael Roberts, the Conservative MP for Cardiff North-West, and Alec Jones, the Labour member for Rhondda, recently died suddenly within a few weeks of each other - sadly for those who like colour, energy and goodwill in their politics.

The Cardiff seat, it is generally felt, is naturally Tory, even if with only a 6,200 majority. But at the same time it is the kind of seat the SDP will have to win if it is to provide a really significant presence in the next Parliament.

Rhondda represents everything that industrial Welsh seats have always been said to be. A Labour majority of 31,000 testifies to the fierce loyalty the party commands there. A political mountaineer will need his oxygen bottles to climb over that lot. But even there the voters refuse to be taken for granted. When Jones was first elected 16 years ago, he had a majority of only 2,000 over Plaid Cymru.

Patrick Hannan
The BBC's Welsh Political Correspondent

Aid brings in the new firms

Continued from previous page

club-maker at Newport.

Inquiries for WDA factories are up about 15 per cent over the 1981-82 year, and allocations have increased by about 10 per cent. And the Welsh Office Industry Department offered £23.3m aid to 159 companies in the first 11 months of the last (1982-83) financial year, compared with £18.8m of selective aid to 138 projects during the whole of the previous year.

The formation of WINVEST shows that Wales is not resting on its laurels, and the WDA continues to look for fresh ways of making the region more attractive; hence its new-style advance factories which are more attractive and energy-saving and have greater flexibility. The first factories are being constructed at the Dafen industrial estate, Llanelli.

Mr John Pavitt, the WDA's technical development director, said: "What is happening today is that industrial and office-working conditions are gradually moving closer together. More and more industries want a pleasing environment to attract good staff and impress customers." The factories were designed after a survey of what industry wanted.

The setting up of the WDA's venture capital subsidiary, Hafren Investment Finance, was another initiative to bring jobs to fill the Agency's factories.

It also forms part of the shift of emphasis away from factory building. The agency completed about 200 units last year, but this was about half the previous 12 months.

Hafren was launched in the summer of 1982, and has received more than 1,000 inquiries for aid. It will back businesses - especially with a high technology content in its products - with amounts from £10,000 to £100,000 in packages which can include shares and loans.

In less than a year it has invested more than £600,000 in about 15 companies, most of them coming from Wales. These include a business making satellite television equipment and another in North Wales offering specialist diving services.

The agency has also ploughed £2.5m into Wales's first business centre for advanced technology - oo the Desidee Industrial Park at Shotton. This will enable small businesses to work with research scientists.

The Development Board for Rural Wales adopted the Mid Wales Development title for its promotional work when it was given powers to offer grants to businesses.

According to Mr Leslie Morgan, the chairman: "when many of Britain's rural areas lost their assisted status in August, 1982, they lost everything they had in offer. Mid Wales did not. It has the board and a new grant."

Wales is the breeding ground for new ways of trying to counter economic problems. One of them, the Desidee Enterprise Trust, is a storehouse of guidance to companies thinking of moving into or expanding in Clwyd.

Mr Peter Summers, its managing director, said that it will help anybody with a workable idea. It might be that a company is looking for a factory or grants or a workforce - or just a sympathetic bank manager. The trust is backed by various organizations, including local industries, trade unions, banks and local authorities.

At the other end of Wales, the Neath Development Partnership has been instrumental in bringing workshop units to the area and devising schemes to boost tourism. The partnership grew out of an initiative by the Confederation of British Industry to help areas badly hit by the recession.

In another move, the Wales Trades Union Congress is setting up an advice centre with government, European Commission and WDA cash to encourage workers to form cooperative businesses.

European Commission money, including more than £150m from the Regional Development Fund, has helped improve the region's infrastructure. Now, there are high hopes that the region could capture the 5,000-job Nissan car plant. Three sites, at Cardiff, Newport and Shotton, are in the running.

Garrod Whatley
Industrial Editor,
Western Mail

Battles, bands and banquets. Parades, plays and pageants.

Join us in Wales this year for the Festival of Castles.

Wales is a land of castles: from craggy hill-top defences such as Caernarfon to the vast medieval fortresses of Clwyd, Gwynedd and Carmarthen.

This year we're celebrating Wales' unique heritage and history with the Festival of Castles - Caerdydd 1983. It promises to be one of the most spectacular events anywhere in Europe. There'll be pomp and pageantry, fairs and fireworks. Concerts and choirs. Mock battles, military bands and medieval banquets. And less formal celebrations too: quizzes and archaeological digs, folk-singing and falconry, poetry readings and plays.

The Festival runs throughout the year. So whenever you come, wherever you stay, you'll find something to look at, to listen to or to join in.

Castles and castles, mountains and old markets. Wales is rich in its history and heritage. Rich too in its scenery, with majestic mountains and gently rolling hills, shimmering lakes and cool green forests. And, of course, some of the finest beaches in the world. So bring the family to Wales. For a very special holiday to a very special year.

See book for 1983 Castles in Wales, 1983, full colour, 92 pages, hardback available from A.S. Jones, 10, The Terrace, Newport and all leading bookshops. And for your FREE 50 page brochure post the coupon.

In London call at our Information Centre 2-4 Maddox Street (Off Regent St) W.1. Telephone: 01-409-0969

All ready for the upturn

Continued from previous page

The appointment of Mr MacGregor, has left the South Wales miners unusually apprehensive about the future.

In the current financial year the South Wales coalfield will lose more than £100m, making it by far the most unprofitable in Britain. Of the 33 pits in the valleys, 11 are losing more than £50 a tonne. Losses on this scale easily swallow up the profits made by the 11 pits which turn in a good financial performance.

Local miners' leaders constantly claim that the Coal Board has a hit list of up to 12 pits it would like to close. While this is routinely denied by the Board, it seems likely there will be moves to close another two pits over the next 12 months.

In North Wales the quarrying of slate has long ceased to be a major source of employment and the industry now employs only some 400 people. But old mines, such as Llechweidd at Blaenau Ffestiniog, have been reopened as tourist attractions and their effect on the economy of the area has been startling.

The slowdown of the steel plant and retraction of dependent industries has alerted new industrialists to the availability of a highly skilled workforce. Statistics prove categorically that their reputation for being strike-happy just is not true.

Japanese companies have found that the workers adapt readily to new management styles and produce work of high quality. At Shotton, British Steel Industry has been working closely with the Welsh Development Agency to attract new industry and there are new companies established on the site of the steel works. Since 1978 BSC Industry in Wales has helped to create, expand or relocate 320 companies in the Principality, involving 13,000 job commitments.

More good news from the Principality came last month from Mr Meiron Lewis, chief executive of the Development Corporation of Wales. He said that in the next six months five European firms, five American and three from Japan were expected to announce decisions to set up in Wales.

This month the Wales TUC will be releasing details of the

Wales Co-operative Development and Training Scheme, which will aim at the creation of 1,000 new jobs in the next three years. Already the centre, which will have a full-time director, has been promised £100,000 from local authorities, the same amount from the Welsh Office, £60,000 from the European Social Fund and £45,000 from the Welsh Development Agency.

Throughout the Principality there is a very cautious optimism that the worst may be over. No one underestimates the problems but there is a belief that from the lessons of steel Wales can emerge with a healthy and more diversified industrial base.

T.J.

Wales is a land of castles: from craggy hill-top defences such as Caernarfon to the vast medieval fortresses of Clwyd, Gwynedd and Carmarthen.

This year we're celebrating Wales' unique heritage and history with the Festival of Castles - Caerdydd 1983. It promises to be one of the most spectacular events anywhere in Europe. There'll be pomp and pageantry, fairs and fireworks. Concerts and choirs. Mock battles, military bands and medieval banquets. And less formal celebrations too: quizzes and archaeological digs, folk-singing and falconry, poetry readings and plays.

The Festival runs throughout the year. So whenever you come, wherever you stay, you'll find something to look at, to listen to or to join in.

Castles and castles, mountains and old markets. Wales is rich in its history and heritage. Rich too in its scenery, with majestic mountains and gently rolling hills, shimmering lakes and cool green forests. And, of course, some of the finest beaches in the world. So bring the family to Wales. For a very special holiday to a very special year.

See book for 1983 Castles in Wales, 1983, full colour, 92 pages, hardback available from A.S. Jones, 10, The Terrace, Newport and all leading bookshops. And for your FREE 50 page brochure post the coupon.

In London call at our Information Centre 2-4 Maddox Street (Off Regent St) W.1. Telephone: 01-409-0969

Conferences & Exhibitions

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE CARDIFF

Easter Summer Xmas

OUR CONFERENCE CENTRE OFFERS:

- Over 1500 bedrooms (some double)
- Six Halls of Residence (city & suburban)
- An exhibition hall of 10,000 sq.ft.
- Central catering up to 600 per sitting
- Private catering for smaller groups
- Lecture theatres in abundance
- Visual aids, projection & recording equipment
- Easy access by road and rail
- AND A SPLENDID CAPITAL CITY

BROCHURE FROM:-
THE CONFERENCE OFFICER
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE CARDIFF
P.O. BOX 78
CARDIFF CF1 1XL
Tel. 0222 44211 ext. 2418



LLANELLI centre for industrial growth

- * Development area status.
- * Prestige Industrial Estate being developed by Welsh Development Agency 5 Km from M4 interchange.
- * Nursery Workshop Units and plots for light industry in Llanelli's established industrial area.
- * Crosshands Industrial Estate, site works started on this estate adjacent to proposed A48 Crosshands By-Pass. Ideal distribution centre for West Wales.

For further information, video film etc., please contact:-
Borough Planning and Industrial Development Officer,
Ty Elywyr, Llanelli, Dyfed. SA15 3AP
Tel: Llanelli 58181 Ext. 322.

Rates standstill thanks to county

Industry in North Wales is congratulating Clwyd County Council for deciding not to increase its rates this year. In a statement, the Confederation of British Industry said that on behalf of Clwyd employers it was pleased to offer appreciation and thanks to a County authority.

Mr Lewis Davies, CBI Wales's North Wales chairman, said: "Credit should be given where it is due and I am delighted that Clwyd councillors have had the guts to acknowledge that no council can immunise itself from the recession through rate increases.

"Their votes will directly assist local companies to be competitive, help safeguard jobs and set an example which I trust other counties will try to copy."

Mr Davies is site general manager of the Rayon manufacturers Courtaulds, in Holywell.

MANCHESTER EVENING NEWS Wednesday March 2 1983

Clwyd - a better business decision

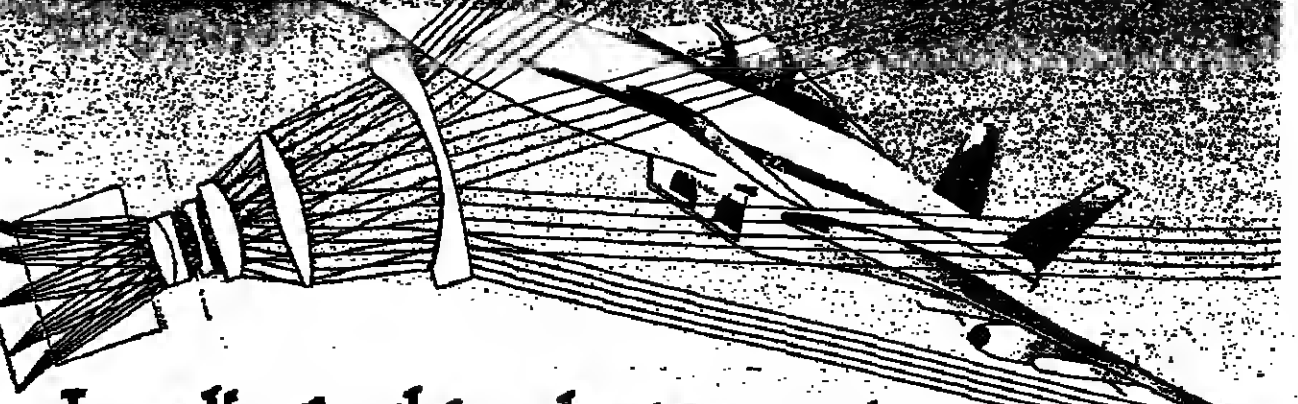
Talk to Wayne Morgan, County Industrial Officer, Clwyd County Council, Shire Hall, Mold, Clwyd. Tel: Mold (0352) 2121. Telex 61454.

Summer Schools and Weekend Courses

for a holiday choice with an instructive programme e.g. Wales - Castle, Chapel and Mine 25-31 July. The Hill Residential College, Pwysgwynn, Aberystwyth, Dyfed. NPT 71P. Telephone (0872) 5221.

Summertime at St. Brides Hotel Saundersfoot, Dyfed AA*** RAC***

Superb location with dramatic sea views. All rooms with private bath/shower, colour TV, tea trays. Honey-moon suite. Heated pool. Dinner dances. Activities include golf, cycling, fishing, sailing, windsurfing. Children sharing parents room stay free, charged for meals only. For colour brochure & leaflets tel: 0534 812394



Leading edge electro optics

Manufacturers of advanced electro-optical systems

Filkington PE Limited,
Glascroft Road, St. Asaph, Clwyd, LL17 0LL, UK.
Tel: St. Asaph (0745) 583301. Telex: 61291.

048/001350

هكذا من رايهم

WALES

TOURISM

Welcoming the greenery back to the valleys

Stereotyped images are hard to erase. Just as Snowdonia is known to be beautiful, so the South Wales valleys are thought of as unmitigably miserable - grim, depressing places that the tourist has to motor through on his way to the Brecon Beacons, the undulating richness of Mid-Wales and the high grandeur of the North.

But the tourist should stop and investigate, for as the great industries of coal and steel have declined so the valleys are being returned to the kind of beauty they had before they were ravaged by the industrial revolution. Soon there will be only one pit left in the Rhondda valley, an area that was once synonymous with the production of coal.

The National Coal Board has spent millions of pounds on removing and landscaping pits and ocoo-barah hillsides have been transformed into attractive wooded vistas.

As part of its effort to capture an increased share of the British tourist market, the Wales Tourist Board is cooperating with local councils in promoting a "Visit the Valleys" campaign. Six thousand brochures are being printed, extolling the virtues of the two Rhondda valleys, which also offer a treasurehouse of discovery for the student of industrial history.

Further west, private and public bodies have combined to form the North Development Partnership, which recently announced a £3.5m development, embracing nine separate projects which link existing facilities in the Gower Peninsula, Swansea, and West Glamorgan with the Brecon Beacons.

The partnership hopes that the scheme will provide 600 new jobs in an area that suffers an unemployment rate of more than 18 per cent, and its attractions are geared to creating a balance of interest for all members of the family. While some visitors will enjoy a leisurely canal trip, others will be able to ski down the most extensive main slope in Britain.

Some of the attractions already exist and last year one of them, the Pencyson Wildlife Park, attracted more than 215,000 visitors.

The scheme is an interesting example of how both sides of the industry can combine for the benefit of the region.

The scheme is an interesting example of how both sides of the industry can combine for the benefit of the region.

The scheme is an interesting example of how both sides of the industry can combine for the benefit of the region.

chairman of the West Glamorgan County Council Education Committee.

"Tourism is big business in Wales and the latest figures show that in one year more than eleven million British visitors spent more than £450m in the Principality. An estimated £50m more was spent by 400,000 foreign visitors.

The splendid natural scenery and magnificent castles continue to get like magnets, but the changing pattern of holidays is causing concern to hoteliers.

Research carried out by the Wales Tourist Board points to a continuing and worrying decline in the market for the traditional holiday of seven or fourteen nights in seaside hotels.

A report by the board stated: "We cannot put all the blame on factors outside our control. Wales has allowed its share of long holidays to slip by, failing to increase spending on publicity and promotion at a time when there was increased competition from within Britain and abroad.

"The overriding complaint made by visitors to Wales is the lack of facilities and things to do when the weather is bad. It is a myth that it always rains in Wales, although when the high mountains catch the clouds on their western edge the results can be pretty spectacular.

Wet Sundays in Wales are now far less miserable for the tourist, for following the latest septennial referendum on the issue, only two small areas prevent public houses from opening on that day.

While some resorts still offer little more than their natural beauty, Rhyddlan Borough Council has responded magnificently to the demand for more amenities by building at Rhyi a magnificent all-weather sun centre. There, for a reasonable entrance charge, a family can spend a whole day having fun, swimming and surfing in what must be one of the most



Barry Island: a well established holiday resort.

imaginative ventures in the tourist field in Britain. Last year more than 500,000 people visited it to make it the top tourist attraction in Wales.

Cardiff, the capital city, has recently joined the major conference league with the opening of the St David's Hall, a fine complex which has as its core a fine auditorium, capable of seating 2,000 people. It has already played host to a national Social Democratic Party conference and the city council hopes that eventually it will attract between ten and twenty conferences a year.

In August, Cardiff Castle, itself a marvellous monument, is the stage for the annual searchlight tattoo, a spectacular and colourful pageant which easily rivals the one held at Edinburgh.

Culturally, there are still few greater experiences than hearing a full-blown Welsh male voice choir in full song. These dedicated amateurs continue to thrive and when two mighty choirs clash in competition the coolest is as keenly fought as any cup final.

Cardiff is also the home of the Welsh National Opera Company, whose scintillating performances have been acclaimed throughout the world.

The City's culture is completed by fine theatres, where shows are often performed before they go on for a West End run.

Many of the performances are backed by the Welsh Arts Council, which treads a precarious course between giving assured value for money through the presentation of tried and trusted favourites while venturing occasionally into the realms of experimental theatre.

Its critics maintain that it does not give sufficient encouragement to Welsh writers. However, its support of Yr Academi Gymreig (The Welsh Academy), which promotes poetry and literature and has funded many workshops to encourage new writers, may indicate otherwise.

As a whole, Wales - weather, warts and all - provides an astonishing range of leisure and cultural activities for the tourist. From the sandy beaches of Cardigan Bay to the born-again valleys, its range of holidays ranks with any to be found elsewhere in Britain.

Write or telephone for a free Buyers Guide on the Crafts of Wales to: WCC Ltd, Box 8, Ladywell House, Newtown, Powys SY16 1EH. Tel: (0686) 27273

WALIS CRAFT COUNCIL
Gyngor Celfyddydol

T. J.

LANGUAGE

The Welsh Not in reverse

After lying empty and forlorn for 20 years, the tiny hidden village of Nant Gwrtheyrn on the Lleyn Peninsula, in the Welsh heartland of Gwynedd, has been revived and rebuilt into a study centre for the Welsh language. Its renovation from the ruins of derelict cottages has become a symbol for the language itself.

Among the vast majority of monoglot English-speaking people there is a strong caucus, who maintain they are discriminated against because of their inability to speak Welsh. In Gwynedd recently parents complained against the county council's declared policy of making all school children bilingual.

Their protest was led by English parents who have settled in Wales and the growing influx of families from across Offa's Dyke into the Welsh areas is creating a growing friction. At its most extreme, the fight to preserve the language and culture has led to the burning of holiday homes, and more than 50 of them have now been attacked. The Welsh Language Society, which dissociates itself from the arson, claims Welsh communities are undermined by outsiders who buy cottages at prices local people cannot afford.

The Welsh Language Society, which has just celebrated its twentieth anniversary has embarked on a new campaign to compel education authorities to make better provision for bilingual education. At present, each of the eight authorities has its own policies and the society argues, a new board should be established to strengthen Welsh medium education throughout the land.

Crude research by the society estimates that such a body would require funding at an annual rate of £30m, a sum which in the present economic climate seems wildly optimistic.

In any event Mr Nicholas Edwards, Secretary of State for Wales has said that such a body would be "counterproductive". During his term of office, Mr Edwards has had much first-hand experience of the wrath of the language zealots. His car has been smashed and personal abuse heaped on him by extremists. In spite of that, he has managed to secure more money for Welsh education and voluntary organisations than the sum given by previous administrations and has publicly stated his commitment to the language.

The single biggest breakthrough in the fight for the survival of the language occurred last November when S4C, the Welsh language television station, was launched in Cardiff.

In spite of the establishment of the channel, regarded by many as the ultimate anchor for the language, the fight will continue. The Welsh Language Society plans another campaign against what it perceives to be the weaknesses of the 1967 Welsh Language Act which gave the language equal validity in courts of law with English.

According to society members all official documents should be available in both languages as a matter of course. The battles and efforts to save the tongue have been impressive but the outcome of the war remains uncertain. It is a fight that only the Welsh can win, for without their commitment no amount of government aid or subsidised television can prevent the slow decline of their language.

T. J.

DESIGN CENTRE WALES
DESIGN ADVISORY SERVICE
The Design Advisory Service exists to help industry identify and solve design problems over a wide spectrum. It can provide informal advice from the Council's qualified engineers and industrial designers. Impartial recommendations of sources of specialist expertise. Critical appraisals of products or prototypes. The service operates regionally and membership is open to companies or divisions of larger organisations anywhere in Britain.

Bringing bigger business to smaller firms in Wales...
The Wales Craft Council is the focus and forum for craft, fashion and giftware producers in Wales. Through its promotional operation, WCC Ltd, it works occasionally and internationally to serve producers and buyers by organising trade fairs, promotions and publications - all designed to bring bigger business to smaller firms in Wales.

CARDIFF
A CAPITAL CITY FOR CONFERENCES
St David's Hall, the City of Cardiff's newest purpose-built conference hall for meetings of 600 to 2000.
first class hotels with many additional meeting rooms
an abundance of accommodation and meeting rooms at the University
first-rate shopping and many tourist attractions
easy and quick to get to by motorway and High Speed Trains

WALES' CITY OF ELEGANCE
The incentives will astound you
CASH GRANTS, CHEAP LOANS, RENT FREE FACTORIES, TRAINING AND RELOCATION ASSISTANCE NEW FACTORIES, RENTALS FROM £1.10 PER SQUARE FOOT, ARE JUST SOME OF THE INCENTIVES AVAILABLE TO BUSINESSES SETTING UP IN MID GLAMORGAN. PHONE 0222-28033 EXT. 143 OR RETURN THIS COUPON TO THE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT UNIT, MID GLAMORGAN COUNTY COUNCIL, GREYFRIARS ROAD, CARDIFF, CF1 1EG, AND THEY'LL TELL YOU ALL ABOUT THE INCENTIVES.

24 new companies make it a record month for Wales.
The number of businesses choosing to settle in Wales hit an all-time peak in February. Most of the newcomers are in the high-technology sector.
A spokesman for the Welsh Development Agency said, "We are delighted to welcome these recent arrivals."
WELSH DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
PONTYFRID, MID GLAMORGAN CF37 5UT. TELEPHONE: (044 355) 2566 TELEX: 497516.

Investment and Finance

City Editor Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES

City Office 200 Gray's Inn Road London WC1X 8EZ Telephone 01-837 1234

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index 688.9 up 1.8 FT 100 Index 82.11, down 0.13 FT All Share 35.70, up 2.68 Bargains: 25, 167 Tring Hall USM Index: 171.2, up 0.7

New York: Dow Jones Average (midday) 1,154.02, down 2.82

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE Sterling \$1.5405, up 40pts 82.4, down 0.4 M 3.7600 F 11.2600 n 367.27 llar 122.7, up 0.3 2.4395, up 20pts

INTEREST RATES

domestic rates: 90 rates 10-10 1/2 month interbank 10 3/4-10 1/8 ... 100 Fixed Rate Sterling ...

PRICE CHANGES

Jettoy 38p, up 8p Inter Elec 44p, up 6p ...

TODAY

Interims: Adwest, Berry Trust, Linread Lowland Investment Trust, Ustar Television, ...

Takeover blow for Bassishaw

The Takeover Panel has turned down an attempt by Bassishaw to offer loanstock as an alternative to its 130p bid for UDS. ...

OCTOPUS VALUE: Octopus Publishing Group will be worth at least £30.1m when it becomes a public company later this month. ...

TAKEOVER HITCH: Kwik-Fit attempt to sort out the potential conflict of interest with Crest International by taking it over has foundered. ...

PROFITS RECORD: Pre-tax profits of West Midlands-based Ash and Lacy have topped for the first time £3m. ...

Wall St stocks down 5 points

New York (AP Dow Jones) - Wall Street stocks pulled back from an early advance yesterday.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell about five points to 1151 after starting the session with a gain of 1.5.

Advancing issues lead over declines narrowed to five-to-four.

International Business Machines fell 1/2 at 107 1/2. It reported a rise in first quarter net to \$1.62 a share from \$1.33 and the stock fell 1/2 before recovering.

General Motors rose 1/2 at 62 1/2. General Electric fell 1/2 at 107 1/2. American Telephone & Telegraph rose 1/2 at 65 1/2. Honeywell off 1/2 at 92 1/2. International Paper fell 1/2 to 53 1/2. Exxon off 1/2 to 32 1/2. General Dynamics fell 1/2 to 44 and Lockheed rose 2 1/2 to 111.

Fleetwood at 24 1/2 was up 1/2. Aydin at 52 1/2 was up 1/2. Motorola at 108 1/2 was down 1/2. Whirlpool at 53 1/2 was up 1/2. Teletype at 146 1/2 was down 1/2. Warner Communications at 25 1/2 was unchanged. Hewlett Packard at 79 1/2 was down 1/2.

Rio Tinto shares jump 40p

By Sally White

Profits of Rio Tinto-Zinc, the international mining and industrial group, were higher than had been expected last year. At the pretax level, profits dipped to £341m from £348m and the net profit attributable to shareholders was higher at £103.5m against £102.3m.

But the company has sounded a note of caution: "While there are some signs that limited recovery is beginning to appear in a number of Western economies, most importantly in the United States, it is not yet broadly based."

The company says that supplies of basic raw materials tend to experience the impact of changes in business activity rather late in the cycle and it is likely to be towards the end of this year, or even in 1984, before the full benefits of any economic revival are realized in terms of the group's operating results.

But the shares rose sharply, up 40p to 58 1/2. Group sales rose from £3,020m to £3,680m. The inclusion of £400m from sales of Tunnal Holdings, ...

London Brick sell-off

By Jeremy Warner

London Brick had sold for £3m a business it bought 10 years ago for £7m to London and Midland Industries, the industrial services and engineering company.

The two groups yesterday concluded arrangements for London and Midland to buy Banbury and Gardens, which makes pre-fabricated home extensions, garages and greenhouses.

London and Midland already owns Compton Buildings, which is in the same business and is one of the group's more successful subsidiaries.

Announcing annual profits slightly ahead of the £15m it forecast at the time of its bid for rival brick maker Istock Johnsen, London Brick said yesterday that it was selling Banbury because it has been unprofitable.

Kissinger urges overhaul of monetary system Call for new Bretton Woods

From Bailey Morris, Washington

Dr Henry Kissinger, the former US Secretary of State, and a group of influential European and American officials will convene a special meeting in Washington next month to try to persuade the Reagan Administration to agree to an overhaul of the international monetary system.

Dr Kissinger has said repeatedly that the present system of floating exchange rates has been a disaster which has created permanent economic instability.

He and other like-minded officials, including Otto Graf Lambsdorff, the Western German finance minister, intend to press the Administration to agree to a new international conference on exchange rates.

The group will also attempt to persuade important members of President Reagan's cabinet who have been invited to the conference on May 17 that the issue of exchange rates should be a priority item at the Williamsburg economic summit on May 28.

Britain 'uniquely placed' to prevent market falls says minister Lawson defends intervention to stabilize world oil prices

By Jonathan Davis, Energy Correspondent

The world's oil market appears to have stabilized, and a third oil price shock is unlikely, Mr Nigel Lawson, the Secretary of State for Energy, said yesterday.

In what amounts to the first full defence of the Government's recent intervention to prevent further sharp falls in the price of North Sea oil, Mr Lawson said that, as a leading trading nation and oil exporter, Britain was uniquely placed to determine where the Western world's best interests on oil prices lay.

While oil prices would inevitably be determined by the balance of supply and demand, Britain had an interest in smoothing out the imperfections of the market.

"We have sufficient experience of the effects of oil shocks, of the cost of economic adjustment, to recognize the desirability of doing what we can to avoid unnecessary fluctuations and to achieve equilibrium by the smoothest possible route," he said.

"The British national oil corporation's pricing proposals have had this objective very much in mind. Not that BNOC can stop North Sea prices from

going where the market takes them, but it can allow time for the market's expectations to settle down, reducing the danger of an initial overreaction and so minimizing unnecessary disruption."

The Government's pressure on oil companies not to push too hard for further reductions in the North Sea price for fear of wrecking last month's Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries pricing agreement is acknowledged to have helped to restore some stability to the turbulent market.

Money growth likely to exceed target

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

The most closely watched measure of the money supply, sterling M3, rose by 0.9 per cent in the four weeks to mid-March, the Bank of England confirmed yesterday. This was the biggest monthly increase since last autumn.

An equally rapid or more rapid increase is expected in the April period because of the surge in government borrowing in March revealed on Wednesday.

As a result, money growth in the first two months of the target period which began in February and runs to April next year is likely to exceed or top the 7 to 11 per cent band.

This has been one factor behind the Bank of England's reluctance to sanction an early cut in bank base lending rates, which might have been quickly followed by pressure for more.

City analysts estimate that over the target period as a whole

money growth can be contained within the 7 to 11 per cent range, even if public borrowing overshoots the £2,000m target for 1983-4 by up to £2,000m.

To stay within the midpoint of the range, money growth would have to average 0.75 per cent in March but the broad measure of private sector liquidity, PSL2, which includes building society deposits, increased by 1.3 per cent.

was optimistic about the company's likely share performance in the medium-term.

Britoil confirmed it is in discussions with Amerasia Hess and other United States oil companies about acquiring American exploration and production interests. The company also disclosed that a £80m drilling rig being built at Scott Lithgow was running at least a year behind schedule.

Mr Hamish Gray, Energy Minister, said yesterday a substantial number of applications may soon be forthcoming to develop North Sea oil and gas fields. "We could be on the verge of a flood of applications," he said.

Six applications are already under discussion, three of which date from after last month's Budget which increased incentives to develop marginal fields. A second batch of five applications, mainly to develop oil fields, is expected before the end of the year, he said.

Sellers of the key North Sea Brent oil yesterday raised their quotes on the European spot market in Rotterdam to just over the official price of \$30 a barrel, oil traders said.

ABP beats profit forecast

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Associated British Ports Year to 31.12.82 Pretax profit £5.5m (£10.3m loss) Turnover £152m (£128m) Net dividend nil Share price 159p

Associated British Ports has had a good first quarter although the level of trade has not shown any significant improvement yet. Mr Keith Stuart, the chairman, said yesterday as the group announced 1982 profits just ahead of forecast.

Compared with the £5.4m pretax forecast at the time of the heavily-oversubscribed offer for sale in February, ABP turned in £5.5m.

Allowing for changes in the group's capital structure since the year-end and new arrangements with British Steel, the underlying profit after £8.9m of severance payments was £8.9m last year.

Sotheby's seeks a better suitor

By Our Financial Staff

The formal offer document detailing the terms of the £60.6m bid by two New York financiers and art collectors for Sotheby's Parke Bernet was dispatched yesterday to the company's shareholders amid growing speculation in the stock market that Sotheby's will not be able to find a more acceptable suitor.

Sotheby's is expected to respond next week to the opening of the formal bid proceedings with a defence document which is likely to predict a return to profits of more than £1m in the year to August.

Yesterday's 520p a share offer document from Mr Marshall Cogan and Mr Stephen Swid, attempts to cast doubt on the threat that the company's 133 art experts that they will resign if the two Americans gain control. "We are confident that these professionals, whom we regard

as essential to the revitalization of Sotheby's, would in the event find that we would create an excellent managerial environment in which to work."

They added: "We trust that, upon further reflection, the directors and experts will not take any action that might harm Sotheby's. That the directors, upon mature reflection, will recommend the offer."

Mr Gordon Brunton, Sotheby's chairman, pledged himself to finding an alternative solution to the company's predicament.

Mr Graham Llewellyn, chief executive, who has been mentioned by the Takeover Panel for the way he has condemned the American bid, said: "What really sticks in the gullet about all this is that having done all the soul-destroying restructuring of the last year, these two Americans have come along to try and reap the rewards. We bitterly resent this approach."



'Delighted' Miss World chief Mr Eric Morley with former title holders yesterday

Miss World in demand

By Michael Clark

A broker in drag and a bevy of beauties greeted Mr Eric Morley's Miss World debut on the London Stock Exchange yesterday as the beauty competition he introduced more than 30 years ago was offered to the public.

About 42 per cent of the shares in Miss World Group were offered, representing 810,000 shares at 60p each. But when dealings began the first price marked on dealers' pitches

showed a figure of 133p, valuing the group at £2.5m.

Mr Morley, who with his wife Julia, the managing director, owns 51.28 per cent of the shares, was delighted with the market's response.

For the current year to December 31, the group has forecast pretax profits of £300,000 compared with a figure of only £156,000 last year.

Auditors' check at Home Video

Mr Jack Gill, new chairman of Home Video, has looked into the company's cupboard and found a few skeletons.

According to Mr Gill, several deals which the company had entered into last year were not going to produce the expected results. In the light of this information these "doubtful" agreements and deals have been investigated by the group's auditors Peat, Marwick, Mitchell. The deals could cost the company about £850,000. In addition, the company has made provisions for a further £185,000 to take into account discontinued activities.

Unaudited accounts for the six months to December 31, now show £1.72m losses. The company is now in touch with its solicitors to try and reclaim some of losses.

CLERICAL MEDICAL 1982

"Total new premium income reached a record £70 million, 75% higher than in 1981."

Sir Douglas Morpeth, Chairman



Principal points from the Chairman's Statement: The figures for individual business were good. New ordinary life annual premiums grew by 50%... The overall increase in new premiums was achieved despite a decrease in new annual premiums to Group Pension Contracts... Managed Funds: We also look for continued growth for our Managed Funds which we introduced at the beginning of 1982... Clerical Medical: In: The Secretary, FREEPOST, Clerical Medical & General Life Assurance Society, 15 St James's Square, London SW1Y 4XP. Telephone: 01-930 5474. I would like details of your policies for: Life Assurance, Pensions, Permanent Health Insurance.

-TRADITIONALLY, GREAT PERFORMERS-

دكان من الاطراف

Clive Cookson reports on how Xerox's profits fightback has an Eastern flavour

Copier king challenges Japanese



Industrial notebook The cheap petrol era trickles away

Why is petrol still so cheap? In a week when pump prices were raised by 1p to 14p a gallon, one of the largest increases in living memory, the question might seem unnecessarily provocative. Yet it deserves to be asked, even though - indeed, particularly because - world oil prices are now falling.

Rank Xerox is launching the most extensive range of photocopiers the industry has known in a bold attempt to reverse a 10-year decline in profit margins and market share.

Rank Xerox pretax profits peaked at £316m in 1977

Xerox's particular determination to regain some of the market for cheap low-volume copiers, where the Japanese invasion started, Rank Xerox now holds little more than one-eighth of that sector in the United Kingdom.

make it for sale worldwide, including America. At the top of the new range, the 1075 (up to £27,500) was developed mainly in the United States and will initially be imported from there to Europe, though Venray will also make it in due course.

Shares of the photocopier market are hard to estimate because companies are not prepared to give away sales figures to their competitors. Xerox and Rank Xerox probably take 40 to 50 per cent of the industry's total revenues - including service and supplies as well as sales and rental of the actual machines.

managed only £179m in 1982. (The complexity of the cost and profit-sharing arrangements between Xerox, Rank and Fuji figure are given before deducting the Xerox Corporation's charges for research and development expenditure; they include the Rank Xerox share of Fuji Xerox profits).

Mr Orr-Ewing warns that because of London costs, the 10 Series will not bring Rank Xerox any financial benefit this year. "It will be in 1984 that the chickens come home to roost in the financial sense," he says.

copiers is expected to grow from 200,000 in 1980 to 450,000 by 1983. This makes it impossible (or at least impossibly expensive) for Rank-Xerox to rely on its traditional practice of selling direct to corporate customers.

There is an explosion at the bottom end of the market. Britain's population of photo copiers is expected to increase from 22,800m (£15,200m) in 1982 to 49,600m in 1987 (about a third of that is within Europe).

An explosion at the bottom end of market

Table titled 'The Japanese Copiers' showing market share percentages for various companies like Canon, Sharp, Minolta, etc.

Note: These figures are an approximate indication of each company's percentage of total copier sales during 1982/83, based on unpublished sources.

APPOINTMENTS

Lloyds Bank UK director

Sir Peter Ramsbotham has become a director of the clearing bank board of Lloyds Bank, Lloyds Bank UK Management. He will succeed Lord Beeching, who retires at the annual general meeting of Lloyds Bank UK Management as chairman of the southern regional board of the bank.

Large financial table titled 'Authorized Units & Insurance Funds' containing multiple columns of data for various investment funds and insurance products.

Handwritten number '448/10150' at the bottom of the page.

Broadstone Investment Trust

Public Limited Company
Managed by J. Henry Schroder Wagg & Co. Limited

The Annual General Meeting was held at 120 Cheapside, London EC2
On Monday, 11 April, 1983

The following is a summary of the Report by the Directors for the year ended 31 December, 1982.

Table with 3 columns: Item, 1982, 1981. Rows include Total Revenue, Revenue after taxation and expenses, Earnings per Ordinary Share, etc.

Copies of the Report and Accounts are available from the Secretaries,
J. Henry Schroder Wagg & Co. Limited, 120 Cheapside, London EC2V 8DS.



Anglo American Investment Trust Limited

(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)

Preliminary profit announcement and balance sheet and notice of
final dividend on the ordinary shares

Subject to final audit, the income statement for the year ended March 31 1983 and the balance sheet at that date,
are as follows:

INCOME STATEMENT

Income statement table with 3 columns: Company and associated company, 1983, 1982. Rows include Income from associated company, Dividends, Interest earned, etc.

BALANCE SHEET

Balance sheet table with 3 columns: Company and associated company, 1983, 1982. Rows include Capital, Non-distributable reserve, Disistributable reserves, etc.

Notes: 1. The company's share of the retained profit, net of extraordinary loss, of its only associated company, De Beers Consolidated Mines Limited, is transferred to non-distributable reserve.

FINAL DIVIDEND

On April 14 1983 a final dividend (No. 86) of 440 cents per ordinary share (1982: 440 cents) for the year ended
March 31 1983, was declared payable on June 10 1983 to shareholders registered in the books of the company at
the close of business on May 6 1983.

The ordinary share transfer registers and registers of members will be closed from May 7 to 27 1983, both
days inclusive, and warrants will be posted from the Johannesburg and United Kingdom offices of the transfer
secretaries on or about June 9 1983.

The dividend is payable subject to conditions which can be inspected at the head and London offices of the
company and also at the offices of the company's transfer secretaries, Consolidated Share Registrars Limited, 1st
Floor, Edgars, 40 Commissioner Street, Johannesburg 2001 (P.O. Box 61051, Marshalltown 2107) and Charter
Consolidated P.L.C., P.O. Box 102, Charter House, Park Street, Ashford, Kent TN24 8EQ.

By order of the board
Secretary: D. M. Davidson
Divisional Secretary

Head Office: 44 Main Street, Johannesburg 2001, April 15 1983

Vickers hopeful of £120m US Navy order

By Andrew Cornelius

Vickers marine engineering division is fighting to win £120m of orders from the US Navy for ship stabilizing equipment which has proved successful during last year's Falklands campaign.

A delegation from Brown Brothers, a Vickers subsidiary which makes the system in Edinburgh, is expected to meet US Navy officials next month to discuss installing the stabilizers in a new class of destroyer.

Brown Brothers has already secured £20m of orders to supply the US Navy with 34 stabilizer sets for the FFG-7 guided missile carrying frigates. But after the stabilizers' success under severe conditions in the Falklands, and its pilot trials with the US Navy, Brown Brothers is hoping to acquire contracts for up to 200 more systems.

The US Navy is likely to tender for 20 more stabilizer sets for the FFG-7 later this year. However, the real prize is a contract to fit the stabilizers, which cost £300,000 a set, on a new class of 7,000-ton

destroyers planned by the US Navy, which is expanding its fleet by 200 vessels over the next five years.

The immediate benefit of the order will be shown in the Vickers balance sheet this year. The marine engineering division is likely to increase pretax profits from last year's £3.5m to £5.5m this year on a turnover of about £60m.

Vickers' sales efforts have been helped considerably by a Ministry of Defence letter commending the stabilizers' performance. The ministry said that the stabilizers enhanced the ships' fighting potential in the Falklands campaign by steady- ing helicopter platforms.

Vickers' plans for the marine engineering division also include an expansion of its offshore oil-related activities. The division has been identified as a core activity within the group and has priority for investment. The first signs of this will be seen when the company launches a bid for an as yet unnamed offshore company in the United States within the next two months.

Profits up by £1m at Austin Reed

By Jonathan Clare

Austin Reed, now back to the profit levels of five years ago, with a £1.3m pretax rise to £3.3m in the year to January 31, is much more optimistic about the future with better sales and higher spending.

Sales in British shops were up by about 7.5 per cent with the first two months of this year seeing a similar increase. With margins little changed, profits are likely to be up roughly in line.

The closure of the Swedish operation helped profits after the previous year's loss of £185,000, but with the closure of the Dublin stores the rationalization reduced overseas turnover by £2m to £4m.

Austin Reed is aware of the attempts by other chains like H&M and Next to move their ranges up market. But it believes they will concentrate on the casual

Austin Reed Group Year to 31.1.83 Pretax profit £3.3m (£2.0m) Stated earnings 9.8p (6.8p) Turnover £48.5m (£44.8m) Net dividend 4.8p (3.8p) Shares price 158p, up 15p. Yield 4.1%

market rather than encroach on traditional Austin Reed territory.

More womenswear Options branches are being opened within menswear branches but it is difficult to calculate their profit contribution because the menswear shops bear all the overheads. Profits from the Netherlands' three shops improved greatly, more so than in Britain.

This year Austin Reed will benefit from lower interest rates which reduce the cost of its customer credit scheme and also put more buying power in the hands of its customers.

Hongkong deficit warning

Less than two months after delivering the Hongkong Government's budget for the financial year that began on April 1, the Financial Secretary said yesterday that the deficit may widen by another HK\$1,000m (£100m) to HK\$4,200m.

In a speech before the legislative council, Mr John Bremridge made the revised estimate, adding that as a result the government may need to further increase taxes to help narrow the budget shortfall.

The government's budget for the year that ended March 31 produced a HK\$3,800m deficit. The Financial Secretary slightly revised the revenue and expenditure figures in his speech yesterday, saying that the gap was actually HK\$300m less.

He said these funds, however, would be transferred to the capital works reserve, leaving the year-end deficit unchanged.

He had predicted a HK\$2,800m surplus for the just-completed financial year, but a sharp economic reversal turned that into the first deficit in eight years.

Mr Bremridge said, however, that the reserves would fall to HK\$4,300m for 1984-85 if the government does not institute further tax increases.

In his February budget speech he enacted HK\$3,000m in indirect tax increases.

Mr Bremridge called the expected level of free reserves HK\$4,300m dangerously low.

He added several comments indicating that the government is giving even more serious consideration to commercial borrowing to cover the revenue shortfalls.

Recovery at Albert Martin

By Our Financial Staff

Albert Martin Holdings Year to 31.12.82 Pretax profit £267,000 (£282,000 loss) Stated earnings 6.32p (loss, 6.73p) Turnover £29.87m (£28.56m) Net dividend 2.0p (0.1p)

Albert Martin, the Nottingham-based textile company, is unlikely to turn in a spectacular profit this year, but 1982's firm recovery after two years of losses is likely to continue.

Pretax profits were £267,000 against a £282,000 loss.

The return of UK manufacturing to profit, the elimination of the loss-making distribution and wholesaling business and increased profits from the Far East turned the company round last year. Lower interest rates also helped together with borrowings down from £4.3m to £3.1m.

The dividend is the first full payment since 1979.

Base Lending Rates

Table of base lending rates for various banks: ABN Bank 10 1/2%, Barclays 10%, BCCI 10 1/2%, etc.

Granville & Co Limited. (Formerly M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited)

27/28 Lovat Lane, London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-821 1212

The Over-the-Counter Market

Table with columns: Bid, Offer, Company, Price, Change, % Change, etc. Rows include 142 120 Asx Brit Ind Ord, 158 117 Asx Brit Ind CULS, etc.

Prices now available on Prestel, page 48146

WALL STREET

Stand on insider trading eased

NYT News Service - Washington Mr John S. R. Shad, the chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission has urged approval of a bill that would allow assessment of triple damages for insider trading violations.

But Mr Shad told the House Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Finance that he could accept important changes that might weaken the proposal, which the Commission voted to support last year.

The changes involve inserting a definition of insider trading, which could narrow the scope of prosecutions, and stiffening the legal standard for proving the charge of insider trading. The possible shift in position surprised some subcommittee members.

Insider trading involves the improper use of corporate information, such as data on earnings or dividends, or market information, such as knowing of a takeover attempt or tender offer, to buy or sell shares to make a profit or avoid a loss.

Under present law and regulations, the commission can bring a civil enforcement action against an individual, but can force him only to disgorge the profits made on the use of the insider information. This proposal would allow the commission to seek penalties up to three times the profit from the insider trading.

Despite these differences, commission officials - members of the subcommittee, Mr Timothy Wirth, and industry representatives agreed that raising the penalties for insider trading was necessary.

Insider trading continues, despite vigorous enforcement efforts, because it presented an opportunity to reap huge profits with little risk, Mr Shad said.

Shad, in explaining his willingness to consider changes, said that people in the industry had raised serious questions about the proposal since the Commission endorsed it last autumn. He agreed to work out

a definition for insider trading that could be applied when the commission was seeking damages under the new triple-damages proposal.

Industrial representatives also urged this approach. Mr Wirth however, said the move to define insider trading was being advocated by a number of people who were going to ensure that, if there were triple damages, they would write a definition that would handcuff the commission and would raise

the possibility of enormous loopholes.

On the legal standard issue Mr John M. Fedders, director of the Division of Enforcement, said that he could accept a stiffer standard for proving insider trading. At present the commission must show a preponderance of evidence. The Securities Industry Association and others suggested that for the triple damages the commission should have a clear and convincing standard.

Large table of stock market data with columns for various companies and their prices.



REA BROTHERS PLC

SIR WALTER SALOMON'S STATEMENT AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 14th APRIL, 1983

Report and Accounts I am pleased to be able to report that Rea Brothers Plc and its subsidiary companies have again had a good year. The disclosed profit for the year ended 31st December, 1982 after taxation and after making a transfer to inner reserves is £2851,000. The comparable figure for the year ended 31st December, 1981 was £2825,000.

An interim dividend of 0.45p has been paid on each ordinary share and your directors now propose a final dividend of 0.8p making a total distribution for the year of 1.25p per ordinary share amounting to £338,000. The dividends paid in respect of 1981 were equivalent to 1.212p per share on the present capital and cost in total £315,000.

The consolidated balance sheet of the group again shows a very strong position. You will notice that the share capital and published reserves are £28,250,000 (1981 £27,777,000). Current, deposit and other accounts are £146,325,000 (1981 £133,946,000). Current assets are £34,569,000 (1981 £26,522,000) and loans, advances and other accounts £51,425,000 (1981 £48,427,000). Our leasing business continues to grow, assets leased to customers being £8,473,000 (1981 £8,358,000) however acceptances show a small reduction at £16,209,000 (1981 £17,363,000). Balance sheet totals are £171,000,000 (1981 £153,514,000).

I am sure that shareholders will be pleased with the results now presented to them and the balance sheet of the group at 31st December, 1982 which both show growth during a year of many difficulties in the economic sector. It gives me great pleasure to report to you that it has not been necessary to make any provision in our accounts in respect of non-performing loans because we do not have any. Our subsidiary companies have increased their contribution to group profits and in particular Rea Brothers (Guernsey), Rea Brothers (Isle of Man) and Copleys Limited have had good years.

Directors and Staff There has been no change in the composition of your board since the last Annual General Meeting. The members of our staff in London, Guernsey and the Isle of Man have worked hard and well during the year and it is due to their dedication that we are able to produce such favourable results. On behalf of the board and shareholders I should like to thank them.

Copies of the 1982 Report and Accounts and the General Observations made by the Chairman on the 'Origin and Cure of the International Banking Crisis' at the Annual General Meeting may be obtained from the Secretary, Rea Brothers Plc, King's House, 36-37 King Street, London EC2V 8DR.

M. P. KENT plc

Property Development and Investments

INTERIM STATEMENT

Interim report for the six months ended 31st December 1982 (unaudited).

Table with 3 columns: Item, 6 Months to 31.12.82, 31.12.81. Rows include Sales, Profit before Taxation, Taxation, Profit after Taxation, Cost of Interim Dividend, Earnings per Share.

Interim Dividend proposed of 0.86p per Ordinary Share.

It was announced at our Annual General Meeting on 19th November last that more emphasis would be placed on the retention of selected property developments for investment income.

This has therefore affected our sales and profit, but will be compensated by the build up of more consistent quality rental income and longer term capital growth.

Our major property developments, previously announced, are substantially completed and lettings proceeding. We are now embarking on a new development programme, involving prime enclosed shopping centres, where we see tenant demand and future growth.

Although liquidity remains strong and the Company has no borrowings, it is hoped - at the appropriate time and subject to market conditions - to raise fixed rate term financing for our future property funding.



M. P. Kent plc, County House, Surrey Street, Bristol BS2 8PS. Tel. (0272) 428181

M. P. Kent, Chairman

Higher inflation after a Tory victory forecast

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

A re-elected Conservative government would preside over higher inflation, sluggish economic growth and a further increase in unemployment, according to forecasts released yesterday by DRI Europe, the consulting group, released yesterday.

The group, which assumes a Conservative victory in an autumn election, predicts growth of 1.9 per cent this year, rising to 2.4 per cent next year, but subsiding to 1.8 per cent in 1985.

Adult unemployment is expected by the group to rise from 12 per cent of the workforce this year to 13.4 per cent in 1985. Inflation, it says, will rise from an average of 6.2 per cent this year to a peak of just over 9 per cent next spring, with little slackening afterwards.

Last-quarter loss hits Morgan Crucible

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Morgan Crucible Year to 31.12.82
Pre-tax profit \$4,72m (28.07m)
Statutory earnings 3.5p (10.5p)
Turnover £152m (£133m)
Net final dividend 4p, making 7.5p (7.5p)
Share price 109p, up 3p
Dividend payable 15.7.83

Morgan Crucible, the industrial components and materials company, slipped into losses in the final quarter to end the year with pre-tax profits down by 42 per cent to £4.72m. After nine months of the year the group was showing a profit of £5.1m.

Russians cut cheap cruises

From John Earle, Rome

Soviet cruise ships offering cut-price holidays from Italian ports are to be limited as a result of talks in Moscow between Italian shipowners, represented by Signor Nicola Costa, and the Soviet organization Morpaslot.

Signor Costa, chairman of Costa Armatori, which runs Italy's biggest private fleet of cruise ships, said the Russians had agreed to a maximum of 250 cruising days this year.

In 1984, the limit would be further reduced to 200 days. This compared with more than 340 days accumulated last year by Soviet ships carrying on average 600 passengers.

The Russians, Signor Costa added, had also agreed to hold a meeting by the end of March each year, between their organization and the Italian shipowners' organization, Confitarma, to approve a charter programme of Soviet ships for the subsequent year.

They also gave a general undertaking to limit to the 1982 level, the resale of berths on the Italian market which were available on Soviet ships chartered to other foreign operators, particularly West German.

Scots short of shot at new range

By Our Rifle Shooting Correspondent

Thirty of Britain's leading pistol marksmen will be at Bilsby tomorrow for an inaugural team match after Dickie Jeeps, the chairman of the Sports Council, opens the National Rifle Association's new pistol range.

The new range, built at a cost of £95,000 with a 75 per cent grant from the Sports Council, will double Bilsby's previously over-worked pistol shooting facilities.

It provides an additional 30 target spaces at 25 and 50 metres and a new match between 10 teams of three will involve precision and duelling centrefire at 25 yards range.

Competitors include the reigning British champion, John Cooke, the police rapid fire champion, Graham Harvey, most of the top international, and teams representing Army, Police, England, Wales, and Scotland.

Bugner hits on a royal road to the world crown

By Alan Hobbard

Joe Bugner's prospects of competing for any part of title in the Indian summer of his career seem to be receding. He learnt yesterday that the European champion, Lucien Rodriguez, of France, has overlooked the cheque-book proffered by the London promoter, Frank Surra, and instead will defend his title against his fellow countryman, Sylvain Wurble, on May 26.

Before Bugner can make serious noises about a world title engagement with Larry Holmes he needs to reestablish himself in the top 10 of the World Boxing Council rankings.

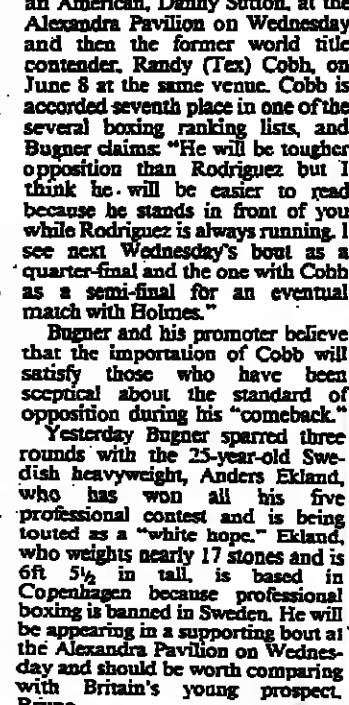
Acquisition of the European championship would make this possible, for Rodriguez himself has just earned £100,000 as an opponent for Holmes in a tedious, one-way engagement in the champion's home town of Scranton, New Jersey.

In order to take that contest Rodriguez excused himself from a proposed meeting with the 33-year-old Bugner. Now he has done so again, rejecting an offer of £40,000 from Mr Surra.

So, just as he did in frustration with Frank Bruno, Bugner has decided to forget all about Mr Rodriguez. Instead he will try to short-circuit the rankings by beating an American, Danny Sutton, at the Alexandra Pavilion on Wednesday.

an American, Danny Sutton, at the Alexandra Pavilion on Wednesday. He learnt yesterday that the European champion, Lucien Rodriguez, of France, has overlooked the cheque-book proffered by the London promoter, Frank Surra, and instead will defend his title against his fellow countryman, Sylvain Wurble, on May 26.

Before Bugner can make serious noises about a world title engagement with Larry Holmes he needs to reestablish himself in the top 10 of the World Boxing Council rankings.



Sunned again: Joe Bugner

Benefits accruing from TV coverage

By Robert Pryce

The British Championship schedule is fixed, at last, virtually to everybody's satisfaction. Cleveland Bombers play Durham Wasps and away this weekend and at Stratham the following Friday. The next day at Stratham, the winners will play Dunsyre Rockets in the championship final. The two games at Stratham will be televised for ITV.

A complex formula has been devised to ensure that the Cleveland-Durham series remains competitive for all three Bobs. It will be possible for a team to lose two of the three games and still qualify for the final, an elegant contortion designed to accommodate the television network.

The British game has not always appeared to cooperate towards television's requirements. "A lot of the clubs do not yet realise the impact they can make through television," John Davis, Thames Television's head of sport, observed. "I hope that will get sorted out for next season."

The benefits in sponsorship and public interest that can accompany television coverage did not impress Ken Bailey, manager of the Ayrshire rink and a member of the British Ice Hockey Association council, who balked at plans to televise two Thursday evening games at Ayrshire last month.

Everything appeared to have been arranged, including rink-side advertising, when Mr Bailey informed Granada, the television company, that he would not cancel public skating sessions or instructional periods so that lighting could be installed.

Granada withdrew, vowing never to return. Graham Nurse, the local club's leading administrator, resigned. He is now helping to set up a club in a new rink planned for Rochdale.

Nevertheless, ITV plan to take up their option on a second season of coverage. The ice hockey that the network has managed to show has been favourably received. "The ratings overall have been incredible," Mr Davis said. "And I have never known a sport on television which has had such a response."

Now the sport is about to benefit financially from its television impact. On Monday the BHA will announce details of a contract it has just signed with a big sponsor for next season's British League. The deal should bolster the stock of the BHA, never very high among its member clubs, and shore up the structure of the British League.

Scots short of shot at new range

By Our Rifle Shooting Correspondent

Thirty of Britain's leading pistol marksmen will be at Bilsby tomorrow for an inaugural team match after Dickie Jeeps, the chairman of the Sports Council, opens the National Rifle Association's new pistol range.

The new range, built at a cost of £95,000 with a 75 per cent grant from the Sports Council, will double Bilsby's previously over-worked pistol shooting facilities.

Competitors include the reigning British champion, John Cooke, the police rapid fire champion, Graham Harvey, most of the top international, and teams representing Army, Police, England, Wales, and Scotland.

England's burst exacts injury toll

From Joyce Whitehead, Kuala Lumpur

A second-half burst of goals gave England a 3-2 win over New Zealand and a place at the top of their group in the women's World Cup yesterday in Wales.

After a goalless first half, England took a 2-0 lead. Jane Swinerton (Staffordshire) finished off a lovely passing movement between Robinson and Gordon for the first goal and Linda Carr (Lancashire) lifted the ball towards goal and a New Zealander inadvertently helped it into the net for the second. New Zealand's Jenny McDonald reduced the arrears before Ruth Hime (Surrey) came on in place of Barbara Hambley and soon scored England's third goal.

Calamity nearly struck England in the closing minutes. Vicki Dixon was injured and replaced by Mary Allen. New Zealand scored again and then Kim Gordon (Leicestershire) appeared to be injured. England had already used their three substitutes, but the hooper sounded to save them from further punishment.

England's burst exacts injury toll

From Joyce Whitehead, Kuala Lumpur

A second-half burst of goals gave England a 3-2 win over New Zealand and a place at the top of their group in the women's World Cup yesterday in Wales.

After a goalless first half, England took a 2-0 lead. Jane Swinerton (Staffordshire) finished off a lovely passing movement between Robinson and Gordon for the first goal and Linda Carr (Lancashire) lifted the ball towards goal and a New Zealander inadvertently helped it into the net for the second. New Zealand's Jenny McDonald reduced the arrears before Ruth Hime (Surrey) came on in place of Barbara Hambley and soon scored England's third goal.

Calamity nearly struck England in the closing minutes. Vicki Dixon was injured and replaced by Mary Allen. New Zealand scored again and then Kim Gordon (Leicestershire) appeared to be injured. England had already used their three substitutes, but the hooper sounded to save them from further punishment.

Datalogic to buy main parts of Altergo

By Clive Cookson, Technology Correspondent

Datalogic, a British computer systems company owned by the American Raytheon group, will buy the main part of Altergo, the software house that went into receivership last week.

The receivers, Mr Ipe Jacob and Mr Maurice Withall of London accountants Thornton Baker, had offers from many buyers in Britain and the United States. They had to negotiate very quickly before Altergo's 275 employees - the vital asset of the business - dispersed to other jobs.

Datalogic is buying the two largest subsidiaries, Altergo Limited and Altergo Business Systems, and has offered employment for nearly all of their 150 staff who were made

redundant earlier this week. They will trade as a separate unit under the Altergo name within the Datalogic organization. The price paid was not disclosed.

The receivers said they were negotiating "with several interested parties in the United Kingdom and the United States" about the future of the remaining parts of Altergo, notably Altergo Software which has significant involvement in the American market.

"Because that business is more complex it is likely to be some days before an announcement can be made" about Altergo Software, Mr Jacob and Mr Withall said yesterday.

Grindlays Bank p.l.c. Interest Rates

Grindlays Bank p.l.c. announces that its base rate for lending will change from 10 1/2% to 10% with effect from 15th April 1983

The interest rates paid on call deposits will be call deposits of £1,000 and over 6 1/2% (call deposits of £300 - £999 5/2%)

Rates of interest on fixed deposits of over £5,000 will be quoted on request. Enquiries: Please telephone 01-9304611

Head Office: 23 Fenchurch Street, London EC3P 2ED

National Westminster Bank PLC

NatWest announces that with effect from Friday, 15th April, 1983, its Base Rate is reduced from 10 1/2% to 10% per annum.

The basic Deposit and Savings Account rates are reduced from 7 1/2% to 6 3/4% per annum.

41 Lothbury, London EC2P 2BP

Courts & Co

Courts & Co. announce that their Base Rate is reduced from 10 1/2% to 10% per annum with effect from the 15th April 1983 until further notice.

The Deposit Rate on monies subject to seven days notice of withdrawal is reduced from 7 1/2% to 6 3/4% per annum.

Williams & Glyn's

Interest Rate Changes

Williams & Glyn's Bank announces that with effect from 15th April 1983 its Base Rate for advances is reduced from 10 1/2% to 10% per annum.

Interest on deposits at 7 days' notice is reduced from 7 1/2% to 6 3/4% per annum.

Williams & Glyn's Bank plc

The Royal Bank of Scotland

Base Rate

The Royal Bank of Scotland plc announces that with effect from 15 April 1983 its Base Rate for lending is being decreased from 10 1/2 per cent per annum to 10 per cent per annum.

Why trampolining fails to take off

Spring in the air but still a frost on the ground

There is something ever so subtly silly about the idea of trampolining. Not with the actuality, oh no, certainly not. When you see these finely honed athletes taking off like roman candles, spinning like catenars, wheels among the rafters, you catch your breath in admiration and astonishment.

Trampolining as a sport involves almost impossibly high levels of skill, power and sheer terror, yet it cannot shake off a background taste of frivolity, its associations with ping-pong, bed-springs and dorm romps.

At its highest level, this sport is one of dazzling pyrotechnics controlled with an iron will, and when the world champion, Carl Furrer, and his young pretender, Glenn Kelly, of Australia, locked horns at the Southern Area Championships there was a surfeit of delights to gratify both the purist and the seeker of sensation.

It was a classic duel, with Furrer returning from an eight month break from competition, pitting his lethally sharp technique against the amiable Australian who sought to compensate for technical shortcomings by outdaring the champion in the heroics department.

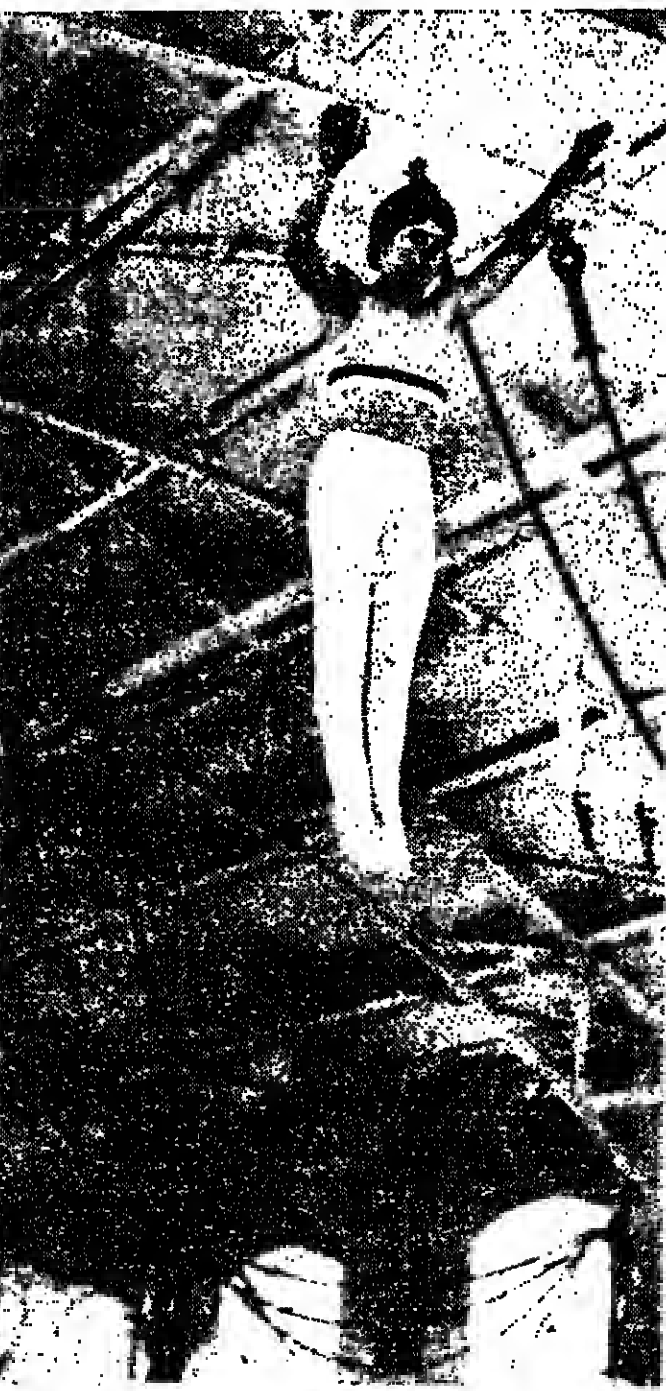
Soft landings Kelly had left Australia to compete in Britain because Britain is the world's leading trampolining nation. That is because Britain takes it seriously as a sport in its own right, even though nobody pings up and down in the Olympic Games. The trampoline is an American invention, but trampolining got a bad name there. Bouncing became a craze, you weren't any one if you didn't have a trampoline by the poolside and a pair of crutches to help you walk after you'd broken your leg on the damn thing.

A lot of people got themselves hurt by being stupid and not realising that if you are 30 feet above your target you don't have a lot of margin for error. In Britain, a trampoline became the first resort of school sports departments with a spot left over in the budget, and here it was taken seriously, and the dangers circumvented. At HMS Temeraire, the Navy's physical education base where the Southern Area Open was taking place, the tramps were surrounded by soft landing stuff, and though there were a few major miscalculations, none was actually hurt.

From the schools, the effort grew. The British Trampolining Federation's press man, Tony Hull said: "It's our system of bringing on youngsters by

organizing competitions in age groups that makes us the best. Take Andrea Holmes. Her first major competition outside England was the world championships in Montana last year, and at one stage she was sixth. And though she blew it in her final round, and finished 10th, when it comes to the next world championships, in Osaka in 1984, she is going to be something to be reckoned with." Andrea Holmes is 13.

Britain is good at the sport, and there is great flooding of interest at the schools, with plenty of gym teachers able to coach trampolining at the basic levels, and a good network of clubs across the country to bring people on. There is even one professional coach, Brian Phelps, who got the taste for bouncing when in training for Olympic diving competitions.



Aerial artistry: Glenn Kelly, world number two, bouncing on high. Photograph by Peter Trievnor

men's programme but it was removed again. Seven was too many. The extraordinarily tedious and apparently nonsensical skills of shuffling about on a pommel horse, and the sickening spectacle of little girls turning on immaculately coached pixie smiles as they skip about on the floor to music, hold the attention of those involved in the mainstream sport of gymnastics.

There are tremendous things to watch in gymnastics as well as silly ones, sure enough, but trampolining, pared of synthetic charm and bursting with quite spectacular daring and zeal, seems somehow to have blown it for the moment. Which is why the Southern Open was at HMS Temeraire, a well organized competitors competition, rather than a crowd grabbing spectacle at the Wembley Arena.

Yet there was plenty to grab crowds. Kelly, the death-defying Australian, was matching his spectacular range of shimmer-

ing green and gold competition vests with a yet more dazzling display of aerial tricks, opening his voluntary routine with a triple backward somersault and following this with the second of his 10 permitted bounces, a triple going the opposite way. "Very Australian," said Scales.

Twitching

Up in the stratosphere, between the rafters, he was earning marks for every bodily twitch, 1 mark for every quarter somersault and each half twist. Yet it was not enough. Furrer answered with precision, ping-pong off that red cross in the middle of the bed every time, surrounded by the rapt insiders of this sport. But even for an outsider it was a grand contest, as Furrer's razor skills won the event to conclude a tremendous day of sport. You left HMS Temeraire with a spring in your step.

Simon Barnes

I WILL PRAISE the name of God with a song, and will willingly sing with the harp, Psalm 99:3

BIRTHS
ATKINS - On 12th April, to Sally and Richard - a son (Simon Richard), a daughter (Emma).

MEMORIAL SERVICES
ANGASTINI - On 12th April, a service of thanksgiving for the life of Mrs. Angela Angastini...

IN MEMORIAM
GAMBLE, BILLY - Remembered and loved by all who knew him. Service on 15th April...

ANNOUNCEMENTS
LAWSON - On 12th April, to Phillip and Andrew a son (Christopher Charles).

DEATHS
ACHESON-GRAY - On April 13th, peacefully, at her home...

WORLDWIDE LOW COST FLIGHTS
Return fares from:
HONG KONG £250
CANBERRA £250
DUBLIN £250

STERLING TRAVEL
3 Trebeck Street,
London W1P 1PH
Tel: 01-499 8317

UP, UP AND AWAY
Reliable flights and lowest prices to:
LONDON, PARIS, BRUSSELS,
FRANKFURT, ZURICH, GENEVA,
MILAN, ROME, NAPLES, PALERMO,
ATHENS, SYDNEY, MELB, AUCKLAND,
NEW ZEALAND, AUSTRALIA, CANBERRA,
MANY OTHER DESTINATIONS.

MEMORIAL SERVICES
ANGASTINI - On 12th April, a service of thanksgiving for the life of Mrs. Angela Angastini...

PERSONAL COLUMNS

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS
GREEK ISLANDS SPRING SALE
CRETE SATURDAY DEPARTURE 16/4 20/4 25/4
CORFU SUNDAY DEPARTURE 17/4 21/4 26/4

RENTALS
BELGRAVIA
An opportunity to rent an unfurnished two floor flat within this excellent period mansion...

RENTALS
MELLERSH & HARDING
499 0866
GEORGE KNIGHT & PARTNERS
WANTED URGENTLY

RENTALS
MELLERSH & HARDING
499 0866
CENTRAL LONDON - Modern flat, furnished, ground floor, fully furnished and decorated...

RENTALS
MELLERSH & HARDING
499 0866
SUPERIOR FLATS AND HOUSES
Fully furnished, modern, centrally located, excellent views...

RENTALS
MELLERSH & HARDING
499 0866
UNFURNISHED FLATS URGENTLY
For purchase, 402 9184, W.A.

RENTALS
MELLERSH & HARDING
499 0866
RENTALS
MELLERSH & HARDING
499 0866

RENTALS
MELLERSH & HARDING
499 0866
RENTALS
MELLERSH & HARDING
499 0866

RENTALS
MELLERSH & HARDING
499 0866
RENTALS
MELLERSH & HARDING
499 0866

BIRTHDAYS
RACHEL FAHMAN is 13 today!
Happy Birthday, Love M. V. & E.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS
BATTISCOMBE - I, Col. Anthony Battiscombe, wish to thank all those who have helped me...

SITUATIONS WANTED
'UNDER UTILISED' FEMALE multi-lingual, fluent in French and Italian, seeks to stretch her capabilities...

SHORT LETS
PARK LAKE, W.I. Modern luxury flat, furnished and fully furnished, central location...

U.K. HOLIDAYS
SCOTTISH BORDER - Top quality furnished cottages on private estate in the heart of the Scottish Borders...

CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS
ROYAL OVERSEA LEAGUE, Park Place, St. James's, and also at 100 Grosvenor Street, London, W.1.

FLAT SHARING
N1E, M7 to share comfortable large flat, own bathroom, own kitchen, exclusive, Tel: 01-249 6047.

FLAT SHARING
N1E, M7 to share comfortable large flat, own bathroom, own kitchen, exclusive, Tel: 01-249 6047.

FLAT SHARING
N1E, M7 to share comfortable large flat, own bathroom, own kitchen, exclusive, Tel: 01-249 6047.

FLAT SHARING
N1E, M7 to share comfortable large flat, own bathroom, own kitchen, exclusive, Tel: 01-249 6047.

LEGAL NOTICES
No. 001008 of 1983
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
IN THE CHANCERY DIVISION

LEGAL NOTICES
No. 001009 of 1983
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
IN THE CHANCERY DIVISION

LEGAL NOTICES
No. 001010 of 1983
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
IN THE CHANCERY DIVISION

LEGAL NOTICES
No. 001011 of 1983
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
IN THE CHANCERY DIVISION

LEGAL NOTICES
No. 001012 of 1983
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
IN THE CHANCERY DIVISION

LEGAL NOTICES
No. 001013 of 1983
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
IN THE CHANCERY DIVISION

LEGAL NOTICES
No. 001014 of 1983
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
IN THE CHANCERY DIVISION

LEGAL NOTICES
No. 001015 of 1983
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
IN THE CHANCERY DIVISION

LEGAL NOTICES
No. 001016 of 1983
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
IN THE CHANCERY DIVISION

LEGAL NOTICES
No. 001017 of 1983
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
IN THE CHANCERY DIVISION

International Appointments

THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE
based in Strasbourg (France)
is organising a competition for the recruitment of ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

Administrative Officers
(Male or Female)
of Portuguese/Spanish nationality
The competition is open to holders of a university degree (licenciatura), preferably with some work experience.

General Appointments
PERRY'S
HAROLD PERRY MOTORS PLC
DIRECTOR
The person to be appointed will have total responsibility for the management of a group of three substantial Ford dealerships...

Non-Secretarial Appointments
PERSONAL ASSISTANT 00-389 for the advertising manager of Fleet News, a weekly magazine...

Country Property
DEVON, BRIGHAM FISHERMAN'S COTTAGE,
waterfront, superb, ideal holiday or permanent residence...

Part Time?
Want to combine work with running your house? Small property management company requires efficient mature secretary to work 5 hours per day Monday to Friday...

Part Time Vacancies
SECRETARIES FOR ARCHITECTS and Engineers, Accountants, Statisticians, etc. 01-726 0222

Part Time Vacancies
SECRETARY AND PERSONAL ASSISTANT
Required for Directors of small but growing firm of investment managers in ECA, preferably three days per week. Shorthand not essential. Rig 236 8224.

Part Time Vacancies
STEPPING STONES
TRAINERS with 3 good 'A' level grade G.M.ans. Some experience in Corporate Management courses for older O.E.s. 25,000 to start. Contact: Graham, 25 Fleet St, E.C.4. 01-363 7094.

To advertise in the Times or Sunday Times please telephone 01-837 3311 or 3333

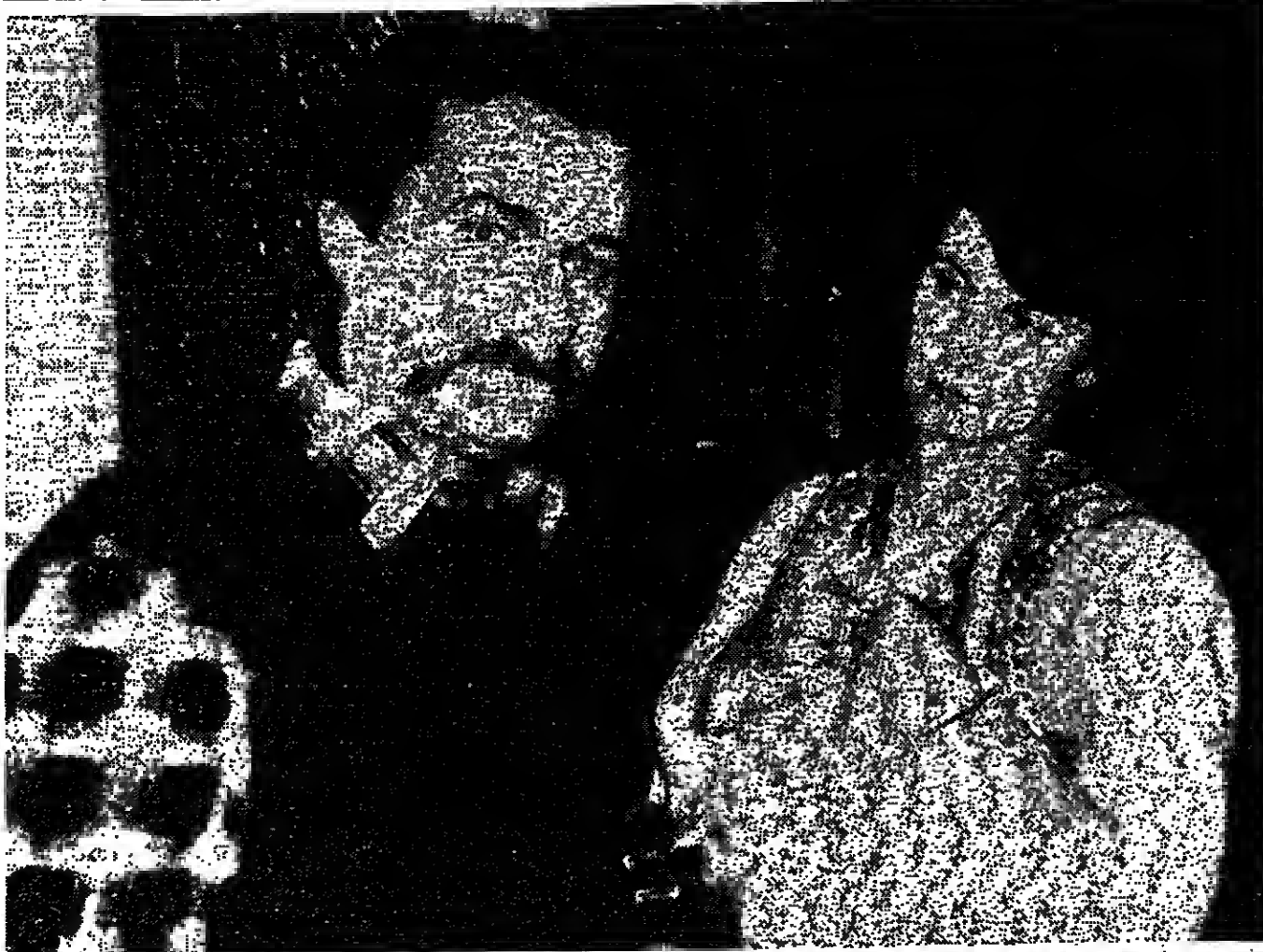
Solidarity calls for May Day mass protests

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

Poland's underground Solidarity leader yesterday called for mass protests against Government policies on May Day, an appeal that follows weekend talks with Mr Lech Walesa, chairman of the banned union.

The underground leaders said that regional outposts of Solidarity should try to secure the largest possible attendance at May Day rallies which would march under the slogans: "Freedom for political prisoners", "Restore citizens' rights", and "End price rises".

Earlier Mrs Danuta Walesa was questioned for two and a half hours by the police about her husband's meeting with the underground. Before entering the Gdansk militia headquarters, Mr Walesa advised his wife to say only that he had been away for the weekend and to refuse to answer any questions about the meeting.



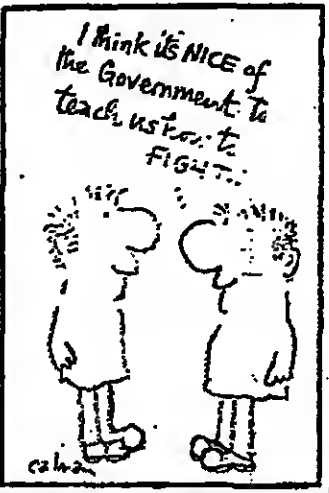
Back home: Mr Walesa with his wife in their Gdansk flat after the Solidarity leader's five-hour interrogation

Jobless youths offered Armed Forces training

Continued from page 1

The Trades Union Congress is likely to oppose the training scheme (the Press Association reports). A spokesman said last night: "A similar proposal for military training under the Manpower Services Commission budget. The Ministry of Defence is contributing £1m to subsidize the difference between the £10 a week being deducted for food and accommodation and the higher charge for regulars of £16.53 a week."

Mr Heseltine told the Commons that there would be opportunities for youngsters who completed their one year satisfactorily to continue in the services, but it could not be an automatic right. He made it clear that the volunteers would be subject to military law. Youngsters will be able to volunteer for the Armed Service of their choice, but the individual service will decide which part they should serve in.



Park Royal printers reject peace formula

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

The future of the Park Royal printing plant in West London has been thrown into doubt once more after 130 members of Sogat '83 refused to endorse a peace plan worked out between their union and management. There are fears that the conflict will continue.

But the British Printing and Communications Corporation, which owns the works, is confident that the deal will enable a return to full production of the Radio Times. The dispute has caused the loss of over 12 million copies of both the Radio Times and the Listener.

Attenborough in storm

Continued from page 1
wanted black and white people in South Africa see it." Mrs Shanthie Naidoo, Gandhi's adopted grand-daughter, also urged Sir Richard out to go. "We believe people should boycott South Africa completely. To show this film in that country is an insult. The liberation movement there has called for it to be boycotted. They do not need a film to show them what apartheid is all about."

South Africa before coming to Britain. In South Africa, Mr Cassim Saloojee, a prominent Indian journalist in the Gandhi Centenary Council, said: "We hope that the showing of the film will inspire people to re-examine Gandhi's concept of non-violent resistance." The Black British Standing Conference against Apartheid said Sir Richard's decision to allow the film to play before separate audiences accepted "the principle of Apartheid, something Gandhi rejected".

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events, New Exhibitions, The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,104. Includes crossword puzzle grid and clues.

Food prices, Roads, Weather forecast, The papers, Best Wines, The pound, Anniversaries, Parliament today. Includes various news snippets and financial data.

Weather forecast, The papers, Best Wines, The pound, Anniversaries, Parliament today. Includes various news snippets and financial data.

Frank Johnson in the Commons Thatcher treads warily on Gandhi path

One of the many charms of Prime Minister's question time is that we ever know who is going to be mentioned. Names from history frequently are introduced into the exchanges if any MP thinks any particular name might help along his or her argument. Among historical figures mentioned yesterday were Abraham Lincoln, Gandhi and Mr Michael Foot.

Mr Michael Neubert, the Conservative member for Romford, prefaced a question to Mrs Thatcher with the observation: "On the anniversary of the assassination of Abraham Lincoln..." Mr Neubert paused as members started laughing, and that gave us time to guess what advice he thought it appropriate to offer Mrs Thatcher on the anniversary of the assassination of Lincoln.

Stay away from the theatre this evening? Look more statesmanlike during the election by growing a black beard and lustrous black whiskers? Mr Neubert's advice turned out to be: "On the anniversary of the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, the Opposition would do better to remember Lincoln's maxim: do not make the rich poorer, make the poor richer."

Personal plea over film. So much for Lincoln. Next, Gandhi. Just as Lincoln was, for Mr Neubert's purposes, an early Thatcherite, so it emerged that Gandhi seems to have voted Labour. For a Labour backbencher, Mr Alfred Dubs, of Battersea South, asked the Prime Minister to consider "the well-deserved international praise that the film Gandhi has received".

High tides, Around Britain, Abroad. Includes tide tables and international news snippets.

London, Top films, Highest and lowest. Includes local news, film listings, and market data.

Prize Crossword in The Times tomorrow, CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 8. Includes crossword puzzle grid and clues.

Parliament today, Anniversaries, The pound, Best Wines, The papers, Food prices, Roads, Weather forecast, The papers, Best Wines, The pound, Anniversaries, Parliament today.

London, Top films, Highest and lowest, The papers, Best Wines, The pound, Anniversaries, Parliament today.

London, Top films, Highest and lowest, The papers, Best Wines, The pound, Anniversaries, Parliament today.

Handwritten text at the bottom of the page: CH8J (10) 1350